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### PROMISSORY NOTE

\$5,000,000.00 May 3, 2019

FOR VALUE RECEIVED, HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT FUND ADVISORS, LP. ("Maker") promises to pay to the order of HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, LP ("Payee"), in legal and lawful tender of the United States of America, the principal sum of FIVE MILLION and 00/100 Dollars (\$5,000,000.00), together with interest, on the terms set forth below (the "Note"). All sums hereunder are payable to Payee at 300 Crescent Court, Dallas, TX 75201, or such other address as Payee may specify to Maker in writing from time to time.

- 1. <u>Interest Rate</u>. The unpaid principal balance of this Note from time to time outstanding shall bear interest at a rate equal to the short-term "applicable federal rate" (2.39%) in effect on the date hereof for loans of such maturity as determined by Section 1274(d) of the Internal Revenue Code, per annum from the date hereof until maturity, compounded annually on the anniversary of the date of this Note. Interest shall be calculated at a daily rate equal to 1/365th (1/366 in a leap year) of the rate per annum, shall be charged and collected on the actual number of days elapsed, and shall be payable on demand of the Payee.
- 2. <u>Payment of Principal and Interest</u>. The accrued interest and principal of this Note shall be due and payable on demand.
- 3. <u>Prepayment Allowed; Renegotiation Discretionary</u>. Maker may prepay in whole or in part the unpaid principal or accrued interest of this Note. Any payments on this Note shall be applied first to unpaid accrued interest hereon, and then to unpaid principal hereof.
- 4. Acceleration Upon Default. Failure to pay this Note or any installment hereunder as it becomes due shall, at the election of the holder hereof, without notice, demand, presentment, notice of intent to accelerate, notice of acceleration, or any other notice of any kind which are hereby waived, mature the principal of this Note and all interest then accrued, if any, and the same shall at once become due and payable and subject to those remedies of the holder hereof. No failure or delay on the part of Payee in exercising any right, power or privilege hereunder shall operate as a waiver thereof.
- 5. <u>Waiver</u>. Maker hereby waives grace, demand, presentment for payment, notice of nonpayment, protest, notice of protest, notice of intent to accelerate, notice of acceleration and all other notices of any kind hereunder.
- 6. <u>Attorneys' Fees</u>. If this Note is not paid at maturity (whether by acceleration or otherwise) and is placed in the hands of an attorney for collection, or if it is collected through a bankruptcy court or any other court after maturity, the Maker shall pay, in addition to all other amounts owing hereunder, all actual expenses of collection, all court costs and reasonable attorneys' fees and expenses incurred by the holder hereof.



- 7. <u>Limitation on Agreements</u>. All agreements between Maker and Payee, whether now existing or hereafter arising, are hereby limited so that in no event shall the amount paid, or agreed to be paid to Payee for the use, forbearance, or detention of money or for the payment or performance of any covenant or obligation contained herein or in any other document evidencing, securing or pertaining to this Note, exceed the maximum interest rate allowed by law. The terms and provisions of this paragraph shall control and supersede every other provision of all agreements between Payee and Maker in conflict herewith.
- 8. <u>Governing Law</u>. This Note and the rights and obligations of the parties hereunder shall be governed by the laws of the United States of America and by the laws of the State of Texas, and is performable in Dallas County, Texas.

MAKER:

FRANK WATERHOUSE

### PROMISSORY NOTE

\$2,400,000.00

May 2, 2019

FOR VALUE RECEIVED, HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT FUND ADVISORS, LP. ("Maker") promises to pay to the order of HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, LP ("Payee"), in legal and lawful tender of the United States of America, the principal sum of TWO MILLION FOUR HUNDRED THOUSAND and 00/100 Dollars (\$2,400,000.00), together with interest, on the terms set forth below (the "Note"). All sums hereunder are payable to Payee at 300 Crescent Court, Dallas, TX 75201, or such other address as Payee may specify to Maker in writing from time to time.

- 1. <u>Interest Rate</u>. The unpaid principal balance of this Note from time to time outstanding shall bear interest at a rate equal to the short-term "applicable federal rate" (2.39%) in effect on the date hereof for loans of such maturity as determined by Section 1274(d) of the Internal Revenue Code, per annum from the date hereof until maturity, compounded annually on the anniversary of the date of this Note. Interest shall be calculated at a daily rate equal to 1/365th (1/366 in a leap year) of the rate per annum, shall be charged and collected on the actual number of days elapsed, and shall be payable on demand of the Payee.
- 2. <u>Payment of Principal and Interest</u>. The accrued interest and principal of this Note shall be due and payable on demand.
- 3. <u>Prepayment Allowed; Renegotiation Discretionary</u>. Maker may prepay in whole or in part the unpaid principal or accrued interest of this Note. Any payments on this Note shall be applied first to unpaid accrued interest hereon, and then to unpaid principal hereof.
- 4. <u>Acceleration Upon Default</u>. Failure to pay this Note or any installment hereunder as it becomes due shall, at the election of the holder hereof, without notice, demand, presentment, notice of intent to accelerate, notice of acceleration, or any other notice of any kind which are hereby waived, mature the principal of this Note and all interest then accrued, if any, and the same shall at once become due and payable and subject to those remedies of the holder hereof. No failure or delay on the part of Payee in exercising any right, power or privilege hereunder shall operate as a waiver thereof.
- 5. <u>Waiver</u>. Maker hereby waives grace, demand, presentment for payment, notice of nonpayment, protest, notice of protest, notice of intent to accelerate, notice of acceleration and all other notices of any kind hereunder.
- 6. <u>Attorneys' Fees</u>. If this Note is not paid at maturity (whether by acceleration or otherwise) and is placed in the hands of an attorney for collection, or if it is collected through a bankruptcy court or any other court after maturity, the Maker shall pay, in addition to all other amounts owing hereunder, all actual expenses of collection, all court costs and reasonable attorneys' fees and expenses incurred by the holder hereof.



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- 7. <u>Limitation on Agreements</u>. All agreements between Maker and Payee, whether now existing or hereafter arising, are hereby limited so that in no event shall the amount paid, or agreed to be paid to Payee for the use, forbearance, or detention of money or for the payment or performance of any covenant or obligation contained herein or in any other document evidencing, securing or pertaining to this Note, exceed the maximum interest rate allowed by law. The terms and provisions of this paragraph shall control and supersede every other provision of all agreements between Payee and Maker in conflict herewith.
- 8. <u>Governing Law</u>. This Note and the rights and obligations of the parties hereunder shall be governed by the laws of the United States of America and by the laws of the State of Texas, and is performable in Dallas County, Texas.

**MAKER:** 

FRANK WATERHOUSE

Case 21-03004-sgj redacted 3:21-cv-00881-X	Doc 83-1	Filed 11/30/21	Entered 11/30/21 16:4	15:53 Desc	
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### PROMISSORY NOTE

\$5,000,000.00

May 3, 2019

FOR VALUE RECEIVED, HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT FUND ADVISORS, LP. ("Maker") promises to pay to the order of HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, LP ("Payee"), in legal and lawful tender of the United States of America, the principal sum of FIVE MILLION and 00/100 Dollars (\$5,000,000.00), together with interest, on the terms set forth below (the "Note"). All sums hereunder are payable to Payee at 300 Crescent Court, Dallas, TX 75201, or such other address as Payee may specify to Maker in writing from time to time.

- 1. <u>Interest Rate</u>. The unpaid principal balance of this Note from time to time outstanding shall bear interest at a rate equal to the short-term "*applicable federal rate*" (2.39%) in effect on the date hereof for loans of such maturity as determined by Section 1274(d) of the Internal Revenue Code, per annum from the date hereof until maturity, compounded annually on the anniversary of the date of this Note. Interest shall be calculated at a daily rate equal to 1/365th (1/366 in a leap year) of the rate per annum, shall be charged and collected on the actual number of days elapsed, and shall be payable on demand of the Payee.
- 2. <u>Payment of Principal and Interest</u>. The accrued interest and principal of this Note shall be due and payable on demand.
- 3. <u>Prepayment Allowed; Renegotiation Discretionary</u>. Maker may prepay in whole or in part the unpaid principal or accrued interest of this Note. Any payments on this Note shall be applied first to unpaid accrued interest hereon, and then to unpaid principal hereof.
- 4. <u>Acceleration Upon Default</u>. Failure to pay this Note or any installment hereunder as it becomes due shall, at the election of the holder hereof, without notice, demand, presentment, notice of intent to accelerate, notice of acceleration, or any other notice of any kind which are hereby waived, mature the principal of this Note and all interest then accrued, if any, and the same shall at once become due and payable and subject to those remedies of the holder hereof. No failure or delay on the part of Payee in exercising any right, power or privilege hereunder shall operate as a waiver thereof.
- 5. <u>Waiver</u>. Maker hereby waives grace, demand, presentment for payment, notice of nonpayment, protest, notice of protest, notice of intent to accelerate, notice of acceleration and all other notices of any kind hereunder.
- 6. <u>Attorneys' Fees</u>. If this Note is not paid at maturity (whether by acceleration or otherwise) and is placed in the hands of an attorney for collection, or if it is collected through a bankruptcy court or any other court after maturity, the Maker shall pay, in addition to all other amounts owing hereunder, all actual expenses of collection, all court costs and reasonable attorneys' fees and expenses incurred by the holder hereof.



- 7. <u>Limitation on Agreements</u>. All agreements between Maker and Payee, whether now existing or hereafter arising, are hereby limited so that in no event shall the amount paid, or agreed to be paid to Payee for the use, forbearance, or detention of money or for the payment or performance of any covenant or obligation contained herein or in any other document evidencing, securing or pertaining to this Note, exceed the maximum interest rate allowed by law. The terms and provisions of this paragraph shall control and supersede every other provision of all agreements between Payee and Maker in conflict herewith.
- 8. <u>Governing Law</u>. This Note and the rights and obligations of the parties hereunder shall be governed by the laws of the United States of America and by the laws of the State of Texas, and is performable in Dallas County, Texas.

**MAKER:** 

FRANK WATERHOUSE

### PROMISSORY NOTE

\$2,400,000.00 May 2, 2019

FOR VALUE RECEIVED, HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT FUND ADVISORS, LP. ("Maker") promises to pay to the order of HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, LP ("Payee"), in legal and lawful tender of the United States of America, the principal sum of TWO MILLION FOUR HUNDRED THOUSAND and 00/100 Dollars (\$2,400,000.00), together with interest, on the terms set forth below (the "Note"). All sums hereunder are payable to Payee at 300 Crescent Court, Dallas, TX 75201, or such other address as Payee may specify to Maker in writing from time to time.

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- 3. <u>Prepayment Allowed; Renegotiation Discretionary</u>. Maker may prepay in whole or in part the unpaid principal or accrued interest of this Note. Any payments on this Note shall be applied first to unpaid accrued interest hereon, and then to unpaid principal hereof.
- 4. <u>Acceleration Upon Default</u>. Failure to pay this Note or any installment hereunder as it becomes due shall, at the election of the holder hereof, without notice, demand, presentment, notice of intent to accelerate, notice of acceleration, or any other notice of any kind which are hereby waived, mature the principal of this Note and all interest then accrued, if any, and the same shall at once become due and payable and subject to those remedies of the holder hereof. No failure or delay on the part of Payee in exercising any right, power or privilege hereunder shall operate as a waiver thereof.
- 5. <u>Waiver</u>. Maker hereby waives grace, demand, presentment for payment, notice of nonpayment, protest, notice of protest, notice of intent to accelerate, notice of acceleration and all other notices of any kind hereunder.
- 6. <u>Attorneys' Fees</u>. If this Note is not paid at maturity (whether by acceleration or otherwise) and is placed in the hands of an attorney for collection, or if it is collected through a bankruptcy court or any other court after maturity, the Maker shall pay, in addition to all other amounts owing hereunder, all actual expenses of collection, all court costs and reasonable attorneys' fees and expenses incurred by the holder hereof.



- 7. <u>Limitation on Agreements</u>. All agreements between Maker and Payee, whether now existing or hereafter arising, are hereby limited so that in no event shall the amount paid, or agreed to be paid to Payee for the use, forbearance, or detention of money or for the payment or performance of any covenant or obligation contained herein or in any other document evidencing, securing or pertaining to this Note, exceed the maximum interest rate allowed by law. The terms and provisions of this paragraph shall control and supersede every other provision of all agreements between Payee and Maker in conflict herewith.
- 8. <u>Governing Law</u>. This Note and the rights and obligations of the parties hereunder shall be governed by the laws of the United States of America and by the laws of the State of Texas, and is performable in Dallas County, Texas.

**MAKER:** 

FRANK WATERHOUSE

### PROMISSORY NOTE

\$5,000,000.00

May 3, 2019

FOR VALUE RECEIVED, HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT FUND ADVISORS, LP. ("Maker") promises to pay to the order of HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, LP ("Payer"), in legal and lawful tender of the United States of America, the principal sum of FIVE MILLION and 00/100 Dollars (\$5,000,000.00), together with interest, on the terms set forth below (the "Note"). All sums hereunder are payable to Payee at 300 Crescent Court, Dallas, TX 75201, or such other address as Payee may specify to Maker in writing from time to time.

- 1. <u>Interest Rate.</u> The unpaid principal balance of this Note from time to time outstanding shall bear interest at a rate equal to the short-term "applicable federal rate" (2.39%) in effect on the date hereof for loans of such maturity as determined by Section 1274(d) of the Internal Revenue Code, per annum from the date hereof until maturity, compounded annually on the anniversary of the date of this Note. Interest shall be calculated at a daily rate equal to 1/365th (1/366 in a leap year) of the rate per annum, shall be charged and collected on the actual number of days elapsed, and shall be payable on demand of the Payee.
- <u>Payment of Principal and Interest</u>. The accrued interest and principal of this Note shall be due and payable on demand.
- Prepayment Allowed; Renegotiation Discretionary. Maker may prepay in whole
  or in part the unpaid principal or accrued interest of this Note. Any payments on this Note shall
  be applied first to unpaid accrued interest hereon, and then to unpaid principal hereof.
- 4. Acceleration Upon Default. Failure to pay this Note or any installment hereunder as it becomes due shall, at the election of the holder hereof, without notice, demand, presentment, notice of intent to accelerate, notice of acceleration, or any other notice of any kind

/HCMF loan 05.03.2019.doc HCMF loan 05.03.2019.doc 5/2/2019 11:27 AM CDT 5/3/2019 2:03 PM CDT 5/3/2019 2:03 PM CDT 5/3/2019 2:03 PM CDT 20211025 Client Flles PROMISSORY NOTE C Not part of a conversation Strasburger FORSHEE RELATED DOCUMENTS Similar (36) Unrevealed (\*) METADATA Custodian Bates No. Revealed Modified Created Doc 1D Author



HCMF loan 05.02.2019.doc

20211025 Client FIles

Unrevealed (()

### PROMISSORY NOTE

\$2,400,000.00

May 2, 2019

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RELATED DOCUMENTS

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Custodian Bates No.

principal sum of TWO MILLION FOUR HUNDRED THOUSAND and 00/100 Dollars MANAGEMENT, LP ("Payee"), in legal and lawful tender of the United States of America, the (\$2,400,000.00), together with interest, on the terms set forth below (the "Note"). All sums hereunder are payable to Payee at 300 Crescent Court, Dallas, TX 75201, or such other address VALUE RECEIVED, HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT FUND ADVISORS, I.P. ("Maker") promises to pay to the order of HIGHLAND CAPITAL as Payee may specify to Maker in writing from time to time.

- Internal Revenue Code, per annum from the date hereof until maturity, compounded annually on the anniversary of the date of this Note. Interest shall be calculated at a daily rate equal to in effect on the date hereof for loans of such maturity as determined by Section 1274(d) of the Interest Rate. The unpaid principal balance of this Note from time to time 1/365th (1/366 in a leap year) of the rate per annum, shall be charged and collected on the actual outstanding shall bear interest at a rate equal to the short-term "applicable federal rate" (2.39%) number of days elapsed, and shall be payable on demand of the Payee.
- Payment of Principal and Interest. The accrued interest and principal of this Note shall be due and payable on demand.

/HCMF loan 05.02.2019.doc

5/2/2019 11:27 AM CDT

5/2/2019 11:31 AM CDT

Modified

5/2/2019 11:31 AM CDT

5/2/2019 11:26 AM CDT

PROMISSORY NOTE Strasburger FORSHEE

- Prepayment Allowed: Renegotiation Discretionary. Maker may prepay in whole or in part the unpaid principal or accrued interest of this Note. Any payments on this Note shall be applied first to unpaid accrued interest hereon, and then to unpaid principal hereof.
- Acceleration Upon Default. Failure to pay this Note or any installment hereunder as it becomes due shall, at the election of the holder hereof, without notice, demand, presentment, notice of intent to accelerate, notice of acceleration, or any other notice of any kind

EXHIBIT **1** ≥ / **1** ≥ / **1** ≥ APP 0616

HC

# HCMF loan 05.03.2019

N: » NexPoint » Adversaries » 21-03004 HCMFA



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Properties *	
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Title

Add a category Normal.dotm Add text Categories **Template** Status

specify the subject Strasburger Add text Hyperlink Base Company Subject

### Related Dates

5/2/2019 11:27 AM 5/3/2019 2:03 PM 5/3/2019 2:03 PM Last Modified Last Printed Created

### Related People

JFORSHEE. Specify the manager Manager Author

Last Modified By

Add an author

Kristin Hendrix

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# HCMF loan 05.02.2019

N: » NexPoint » Adversaries » 21-03004 HCMFA



## Convert File Formats

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## ndOffice Echo Backup

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Open Backup

Folder



Document •

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Issues \*

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- Document properties, e-mail collaboration information, author's name and related dates
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### Related Dates

Last Modified 5/2/2019 11:31 AM
Created 5/2/2019 11:26 AM
Last Printed 5/2/2019 11:27 AM

### Related People

Manager Specify the manager
Author JFORSHEE

Add an author
Last Modified By Kristin Hendrix

### Related Documents

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Case 21-03004-sgj Doc 83-1 Filed 11/30/21 Entered 11/30/21 16:45:53 Desc Case 3:21-cv-00881-X Dockhopendix6Pagt 2FilePagte/019/02/40f 37/9ge 22 of 261 PageID 28338

From: Scott Ellington <SEllington@HighlandCapital.com>
To: Kristin Hendrix <KHendrix@HighlandCapital.com>
Cc: Frank Waterhouse <FWaterhouse@HighlandCapital.com>

Subject: Re: HCM - HCMFA Financial Statements

Date: Wed, 2 Dec 2020 17:51:57 -0600

**Importance:** Normal

Yes please do.

Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 2, 2020, at 4:30 PM, Kristin Hendrix wrote:

Scott, can you confirm this is okay to proceed with providing?

Begin forwarded message:

From: James Seery

Date: December 2, 2020 at 4:27:43 PM CST

To: Kristin Hendrix

Cc: Jack Donohue, Bradley Sharp, Fred Caruso, James Romey, Frank Waterhouse, Scott Ellington,

Greg Demo, Thomas Surgent

**Subject: Re: HCM - HCMFA Financial Statements** 

All:

Scott and I have spoken and agree that the information should be provided to James immediately.

Kristen, please proceed with James. If anyone has any questions or issues, please call me.

Thanks

Best. Jim

Jim Seery

631-804-2049

jpseeryjr@gmail.com

From: Jim Seery

Date: Wednesday, December 2, 2020 at 11:50 AM

To: Kristin Hendrix



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Cc: Jack Donohue, Bradley Sharp, Fred Caruso, James Romey, Frank Waterhouse, Scott Ellington,

Greg Demo

**Subject:** Re: HCM - HCMFA Financial Statements

This is an explicit direction from me as CEO of HCMLP to provide the requested information regarding HCFMA to James Romey.

If anyone has issued contrary direction at any time, that direction is superseded and void.

Please provide the information now.

Scott, please call me.

Best. Jim

Jim Seery

631-804-2049

jpseeryjr@gmail.com

From: Jim Seery

Date: Wednesday, November 25, 2020 at 1:48 PM

To: Kristin Hendrix

Cc: Jack Donohue, Bradley Sharp, Fred Caruso, James Romey, Frank Waterhouse, Scott Ellington

Subject: Re: HCM - HCMFA Financial Statements

Can I get this ASAP.

HCFMA is way overdue.

Thank.

Sent from my iPhone

On Nov 25, 2020, at 10:56 AM, Kristin Hendrix wrote:

Hi Jack,

Scott Ellington is going to follow up with the board on this request.

Thanks,

Kristin

From: Jack Donohue

Sent: Thursday, November 19, 2020 11:38 AM

To: Kristin Hendrix

Cc: Jim Seery; Bradley Sharp; Fred Caruso; James Romey

Subject: HCM - HCMFA Financial Statements

Kristin,

Case 21-03004-sgj Doc 83-1 Filed 11/30/21 Entered 11/30/21 16:45:53 Desc Case 3:21-cv-00881-X Documpendix6Past 2FilePlage/05/24 of 379ge 24 of 261 PageID 28340 Jim Seery has asked me to review the financial records of HCMFA due to the funds owed the Debtor. Can you please send me the balance sheet, P&L and cash flow for 2019 and through 2020?	)
Thanks,	
Jack	

Jack M. Donohue, CPA

Development Specialists, Inc.

10 South LaSalle Street, Suite 3300 Chicago, Illinois 60603

Phone: (312) 263-4141| Fax: (312) 263-1180

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From: "John A. Morris" < jmorris@pszjlaw.com>

To: 'James Seery' <jpseeryjr@gmail.com>, Frank Waterhouse

<FWaterhouse@HighlandCapital.com>

Cc: Thomas Surgent <TSurgent@HighlandCapital.com>

**Subject:** RE: HCM - Information Request **Date:** Wed, 6 Jan 2021 22:38:31 +0000

Inline-Images: image001.jpg

### Confirmed.

### John A. Morris

Pachulski Stang Ziehl & Jones LLP

Direct Dial: 212.561.7760

Tel: 212.561.7700 | Fax: 212.561.7777

jmorris@pszjlaw.com vCard | Bio | LinkedIn



Los Angeles | San Francisco | Wilmington, DE | New York | Costa Mesa

From: James Seery [mailto:jpseeryjr@gmail.com] Sent: Wednesday, January 06, 2021 5:37 PM

To: Frank Waterhouse

Cc: John A. Morris; Thomas Surgent Subject: Re: HCM - Information Request

**Adding Thomas** 

Best. Jim

Jim Seery

631-804-2049

jpseeryjr@gmail.com

From: Jim Seery

Date: Wednesday, January 6, 2021 at 5:35 PM

To: Frank Waterhouse Cc: John Morris

Subject: Re: HCM - Information Request

Frank:

I am the CEO of HCMLP and your direct supervisor. I have full authority over the Debtor's assets and operations. Indeed my appointment and authority has been court ordered by a court with full jurisdiction

Case 21-03004-sgj Doc 83-1 Filed 11/30/21 Entered 11/30/21 16:45:53 Desc Case 3:21-cv-00881-X Doc Appendix 6P39t 2File 2019/42 of 379 ge 26 of 261 PageID 28342 over the Debtor and its assets.

I am entitled to all information on the HCMLP owned and maintained financial and information systems from wherever it came as well as any other information in the possession of the Debtor. To the extent that the Debtor has information pursuant to a shared service agreement, any other agreement, or any other part of its business (pre or post-petition), I am entitled to it, and you are required as CFO to provide to me or deliver it as I request.

For this one time, I am providing you the courtesy of a detailed response. I will even ask counsel to confirm my authority to give this direction. No third party consents are required by you or the Debtor.

I trust this letter allays your concerns.

Best. Jim

Jim Seery

631-804-2049

jpseeryjr@gmail.com

From: Frank Waterhouse

Date: Wednesday, January 6, 2021 at 5:22 PM

To: Jim Seery

Subject: RE: HCM - Information Request

Jim-

I wanted to follow up on our conversation in which you requested that I provide you with certain financial information relating to the entities below. In the first instance, I don't have access to any information relating to Dugaboy. As you know, I have access to this information because, other than Dugaboy, the Debtor continues to provide shared services. I expressed reservation about whether, pursuant to the Shared Services Agreement and my confidentiality obligations, I was permitted to provide the CEO of the Debtor with this financial information, as only a few of the shared services employees are permitted access to the financial information of the former affiliates of the Debtor. You responded by saying that I would be terminated today if I didn't comply.

I'm not a lawyer, and I want to do the right thing in terms of my obligations to these third parties, which is why I asked you if I was permitted to provide the information under a court order or something.

In thinking about it and your statement that I would be terminated, if Debtor's counsel gives me authority to provide this information and approves that it is legal without me obtaining consent of the Trustees or the appropriate representatives of the non-trusts, then I will provide the access.

I will be available to discuss at 4:30 as per your request.

**Thanks** 

Frank

From: James Seery

Sent: Wednesday, January 6, 2021 3:31 PM

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To: Frank Waterhouse

Subject: FW: HCM - Information Request

Frank.

As discussed, after consulting with your personal counsel, please speak to me at 4:30pm Dallas time. I will send you and outlook.

Best. Jim

Jim Seery

631-804-2049

jpseeryjr@gmail.com

From: Jim Seery <<u>jpseeryjr@gmail.com</u>> **Date:** Wednesday, January 6, 2021 at 3:55 PM

To: Frank Waterhouse < FWaterhouse @HighlandCapital.com >, Jack Donohue

<<u>JDonohue@DSIConsulting.com</u>>, Kristin Hendrix <<u>KHendrix@HighlandCapital.com</u>>

**Cc:** David Klos <a href="mailto:com">DSIConsulting.com</a>, Bradley Sharp <a href="mailto:bsharp@DSIConsulting.com">bsharp@DSIConsulting.com</a>, Fred Caruso <a href="mailto:fcaruso@DSIConsulting.com">fcaruso@DSIConsulting.com</a>, James Romey <a href="mailto:jromey@DSIConsulting.com">jromey@DSIConsulting.com</a>, "Patrick J. O'Malley" <a href="mailto:pombley.gento:gento-gen

Subject: Re: HCM - Information Request

My direction.

These are HCMLP business records. Please provided them as requested by Jack ASAP.

Thanks

Best. Jim

Jim Seery

631-804-2049

jpseeryjr@gmail.com

**From:** Frank Waterhouse < <u>FWaterhouse@HighlandCapital.com</u>>

Date: Wednesday, January 6, 2021 at 3:48 PM

To: Jack Donohue < <u>JDonohue@DSIConsulting.com</u>>, Kristin Hendrix < <u>KHendrix@HighlandCapital.com</u>>

Cc: David Klos < <u>DKlos@HighlandCapital.com</u>>, Jim Seery < <u>ipseeryjr@gmail.com</u>>, Bradley Sharp

<<u>bsharp@DSIConsulting.com</u>>, Fred Caruso <<u>fcaruso@DSIConsulting.com</u>>, James Romey <<u>jromey@DSIConsulting.com</u>>, "Patrick J. O'Malley" <<u>POMalley@DSIConsulting.com</u>>

Subject: RE: HCM - Information Request

Jack-

I'm assuming you've received approval from these entities to release this information? Please send the approval over to us so we can review. If you haven't done so already, let us know and we will do our best to find out who exactly is representing these entities and can coordinate from there.

**Thanks** 

Case 21-03004-sgj Doc 83-1 Filed 11/30/21 Entered 11/30/21 16:45:53 Desc Case 3:21-cv-00881-X Docu**Appendix**6P201 2FilePage/01/02/01/02/01/03/01 28 of 261 PageID 28344 Frank

From: Jack Donohue < <u>JDonohue@DSIConsulting.com</u>>

Sent: Wednesday, January 6, 2021 2:18 PM

**To:** Kristin Hendrix < <u>KHendrix@HighlandCapital.com</u>>

Cc: Frank Waterhouse < FWaterhouse@HighlandCapital.com >; David Klos

<<u>DKlos@HighlandCapital.com</u>>; Jim Seery <<u>jpseeryjr@gmail.com</u>>; Bradley Sharp

< bsharp@DSIConsulting.com >; Fred Caruso < fcaruso@DSIConsulting.com >; James Romey

<<u>jromey@DSIConsulting.com</u>>; Patrick J. O'Malley <<u>POMalley@DSIConsulting.com</u>>

Subject: HCM - Information Request

Kristin,

At the direction of Jim Seery, please provide DSI with the requested information for each entity below immediately.

### Entity:

- Hunter Mountain Investment Trust
- NexPoint Advisors, LP
- Dugaboy Investment Trust
- Highland Capital Mgmt Services, Inc.
- NexPoint Real Estate Partners (f/k/a HCRE Partners, LLC)
- Highland Capital Mgmt Fund Advisors, LP
- NexPoint Real Estate Partners (f/k/a HCRE Partners, LLC)
- Highland Capital Mgmt Services, Inc.

### Information:

- 2015 2020 bank statements (monthly)
- 2015 2020 detailed income statements (monthly or broken out by month)
- 2015 2020 detailed balance sheets (monthly or broken out by month)
- 2015 2020 cash flows (monthly or broken out by month)

Let know if DSI can assist in gathering the data faster.

Thanks,

Jack

Jack M. Donohue, CPA

Development Specialists, Inc.

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Phone: (312) 263-4141| Fax: (312) 263-1180

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### HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P.

December 3, 2020

Highland Capital Management Fund Advisors, LP c/o Highland Capital Management, L.P. 300 Crescent Court, Suite 700 Dallas, Texas 75201 Attention: Frank Waterhouse, CFO

Re: Demand on Promissory Notes:

Dear Mr. Waterhouse,

Highland Capital Management Fund Advisors, LP ("Maker") entered into the following promissory notes (collectively, the "Notes"), among others, in favor of Highland Capital Management, L.P. ("Payee"):

Date Issued	Original Principal Amount	Outstanding Principal Amount (12/11/20)	Accrued But Unpaid Interest (12/11/20)	Total Amount Outstanding (12/11/20)
5/2/2019	\$2,400,000	\$2,457,517.15	\$35,884.46	\$2,493,401.61
5/3/2019	\$5,000,000	\$5,119,827.40	\$74,424.05	\$5,194,251.45
TOTALS	\$7,400,000	\$7,577,344,55	\$110,308,52	\$7 687 653 07

As set forth in Section 2 of each of the Notes, accrued interest and principal is due and payable upon the demand of Payee. By this letter, Payee is demanding payment of the accrued interest and principal due and payable on the Notes in the aggregate amount of \$7,687,653.07, which represents all accrued and unpaid interest and principal through and including December 11, 2020.

Payment is due on December 11, 2020, and failure to make payment in full on such date will constitute an event of default under the Notes.

Payments on the Notes must be made in immediately available funds. Payee's wire information is attached hereto as **Appendix A**.

Nothing contained herein constitutes a waiver of any rights or remedies of Payee under the Notes or otherwise and all such rights and remedies, whether at law, equity, contract, or otherwise, are

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Maker is also obligated to pay amounts due under promissory notes issued in favor of Payee prior to April 15, 2019. Pursuant to that certain *Acknowledgment from HCMLP*, dated as of April 15, 2019, Payee agreed not to demand payment on such amounts until May 31, 2021. Payee reserves all rights with respect to such amounts.



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expressly reserved. Interest, including default interest if applicable, on the Notes will continue to accrue until the Notes are paid in full. Any such interest will remain the obligation of Maker.

Sincerely,

/s/ James P. Seery, Jr.

James P. Seery, Jr.
Highland Capital Management, L.P.
Chief Executive Officer/Chief Restructuring Officer

cc: Fred Caruso
James Romey
Jeffrey Pomerantz
Ira Kharasch
Gregory Demo
DC Sauter

Case 21-03004-sgj Doc 83-1 Filed 11/30/21 Entered 11/30/21 16:45:53 Desc Case 3:21-cv-00881-X DockAppendixGP201 ZFileRage/12024f 379ge 32 of 261 PageID 28348 Case 21-03004-sgj Doc 1-3 Filed 01/22/21 Entered 01/22/21 17:54:38 Page 4 of 4

### Appendix A

ABA #:

322070381

Bank Name:

East West Bank

Account Name: Highland Capital Management, LP

Account #:

5500014686

### PROMISSORY NOTE

\$30,746,812.33

May 31, 2017

THIS PROMISSORY NOTE (this "Note") is in substitution for and supersedes in their entirety each of those certain promissory notes described in Exhibit A hereto, from NexPoint Advisors, L.P., as Maker, and Highland Capital Management, L.P. as Payee (collectively, the "Prior Notes"), together with the aggregate outstanding principal and accrued and unpaid interested represented thereby.

FOR VALUE RECEIVED, NEXPOINT ADVISORS, L.P. ("Maker") promises to pay to the order of HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P. ("Payee"), in legal and lawful tender of the United States of America, the principal sum of THIRTY MILLION, SEVEN HUNDRED FORTY SIX THOUSAND, EIGHT HUNDRED TWELVE AND 33/100 DOLLARS (\$30,746,812.33), together with interest, on the terms set forth below. All sums hereunder are payable to Payee at 300 Crescent Court, Suite 700, Dallas, Texas 75201, or such other address as Payee may specify to Maker in writing from time to time.

- 1. <u>Interest Rate</u>. The unpaid principal balance of this Note from time to time outstanding shall bear interest at the rate of six percent (6.00%) per annum from the date hereof until Maturity Date (hereinafter defined), compounded annually on the anniversary of the date of this Note. Interest shall be calculated at a daily rate equal to 1/365th (1/366 in a leap year) of the rate per annum, shall be charged and collected on the actual number of days elapsed, and shall be payable annually.
- 2. <u>Payment of Principal and Interest</u>. Principal and interest under this Note shall be payable as follows:
  - 2.1 <u>Annual Payment Dates</u>. During the term of this Note, Borrower shall pay the outstanding principal amount of the Note (and all unpaid accrued interest through the date of each such payment) in thirty (30) equal annual payments (the "<u>Annual Installment</u>") until the Note is paid in full. Borrower shall pay the Annual Installment on the 31<sup>st</sup> day of December of each calendar year during the term of this Note, commencing on the first such date to occur after the date of execution of this Note.
  - 2.2 <u>Final Payment Date</u>. The final payment in the aggregate amount of the then outstanding and unpaid Note, together with all accrued and unpaid interest thereon, shall become immediately due and payable in full on December 31, 2047 (the "<u>Maturity Date</u>").
- 3. <u>Prepayment Allowed; Renegotiation Discretionary</u>. Maker may prepay in whole or in part the unpaid principal or accrued interest of this Note. Any payments on this Note shall be applied first to unpaid accrued interest hereon, and then to unpaid principal hereof.
- 4. <u>Acceleration Upon Default</u>. Failure to pay this Note or any installment hereunder as it becomes due shall, at the election of the holder hereof, without notice, demand, presentment, notice of intent to accelerate, notice of acceleration, or any other notice of any kind which are hereby waived, mature the principal of this Note and all interest then accrued, if any, and the same



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shall at once become due and payable and subject to those remedies of the holder hereof. No failure or delay on the part of Payee in exercising any right, power or privilege hereunder shall operate as a waiver thereof.

- 5. <u>Waiver</u>. Maker hereby waives grace, demand, presentment for payment, notice of nonpayment, protest, notice of protest, notice of intent to accelerate, notice of acceleration and all other notices of any kind hereunder.
- 6. Attorneys' Fees. If this Note is not paid at maturity (whether by acceleration or otherwise) and is placed in the hands of an attorney for collection, or if it is collected through a bankruptcy court or any other court after maturity, the Maker shall pay, in addition to all other amounts owing hereunder, all actual expenses of collection, all court costs and reasonable attorneys' fees and expenses incurred by the holder hereof.
- 7. <u>Limitation on Agreements</u>. All agreements between Maker and Payee, whether now existing or hereafter arising, are hereby limited so that in no event shall the amount paid, or agreed to be paid to Payee for the use, forbearance, or detention of money or for the payment or performance of any covenant or obligation contained herein or in any other document evidencing, securing or pertaining to this Note, exceed the maximum interest rate allowed by law. The terms and provisions of this paragraph shall control and supersede every other provision of all agreements between Payee and Maker in conflict herewith.
- 8. <u>Governing Law</u>. This Note and the rights and obligations of the parties hereunder shall be governed by the laws of the United States of America and by the laws of the State of Texas, and is performable in Dallas County, Texas.
- 9. <u>Prior Notes</u>. The original of each of the Prior Notes superseded hereby shall be marked "VOID" by Payee.

MAKER:

NEXPOINT ADVISORS, L.P.

By: NexPoint Advisor GP, LLC, its general partner

Name:

maille.

Title:

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### **EXHIBIT A**

### **PRIOR NOTES**

Loan Date	Initial Note Amount	Interest Rate	Principal and Interest Outstanding as of May 31, 2017
8/21/14	\$4,000,000	6.00%	\$4,616,739.73
10/1/14	\$6,000,000	6.00%	\$6,959,671.23
11/14/14	\$2,500,000	6.00%	\$2,881,780.82
1/29/15	\$3,100,000	6.00%	\$3,534,679.45
7/22/15	\$12,075,000	6.00%	\$12,753,941.10
	\$27,675,000		\$30,746,812.33

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# HCMLP Notes Receivable As of 7/31/2020

Total Notes Receivable	Ś	92.895.380	_
Highland Capital Management Services		934,331	Demand
Highland Capital Management Korea		3,760,000	Due upon maturity - 4/21/2037
Highland Select Equity Fund		3,000,000	Demand
HCRE		4,859,929	Demand
Multi-Strategy Credit Fund		1,269,000	Demand
James Dondero		8,911,977	Demand
Highland Capital Management Fund Advisors		10,530,971	Demand
Siepe		2,334,606	Equity conversion option
SSP Holdings, LLC		2,037,898	Due upon maturity - 11/22/2022
Trussway		1,004,993	Due upon maturity - 11/1/2021
HCRE		5,938,670	30 yr Amort (issued 2017)
Highland Capital Management Services		6,677,529	30 yr Amort (issued 2017)
Dugaboy		17,788,532	30 yr Amort (issued 2017)
NexPoint Advisors	\$	23,846,944	30 yr Amort (issued 2017)

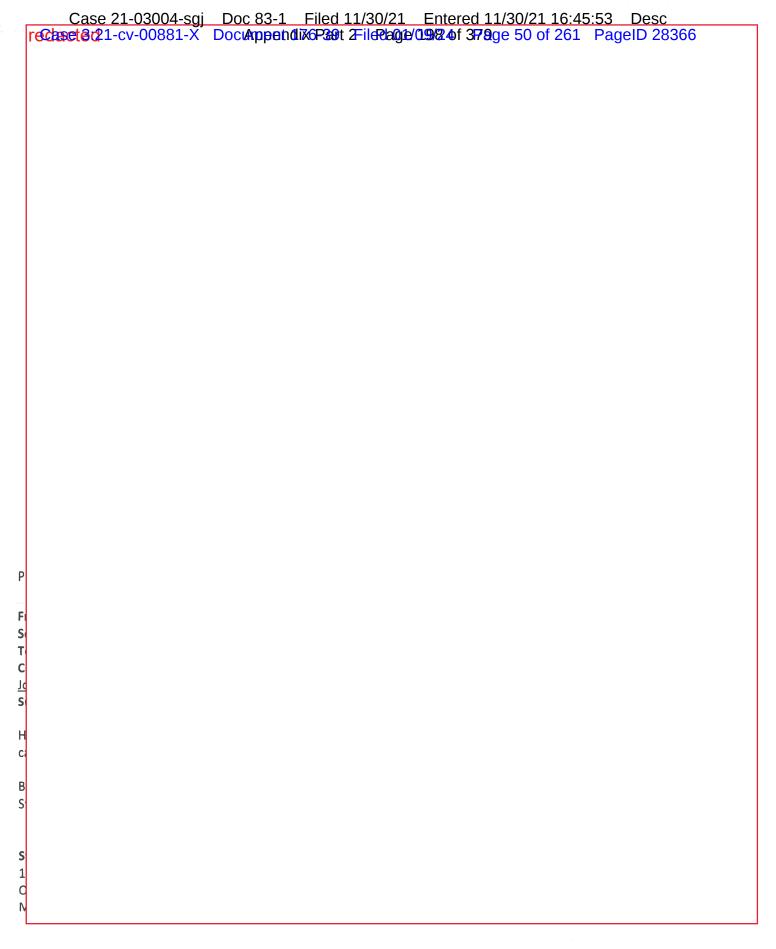
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#### HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P.

January 7, 2021

NexPoint Advisors, L.P. 300 Crescent Court, Suite 700 Dallas, Texas 75201 Attention: James Dondero

Re: Demand on Promissory Note

Dear Mr. Dondero,

On May 31, 2017, NexPoint Advisors, L.P, entered into that certain promissory note in the original principal amount of \$30,746,812.33 (the "Note") in favor of Highland Capital Management, L.P. ("Payee").

As set forth in Section 2 of the Note, accrued interest and principal on the Note is due and payable in thirty equal annual payments with each payment due on December 31 of each calendar year. Maker failed to make the payment due on December 31, 2020.

Because of Maker's failure to pay, the Note is in default. Pursuant to Section 4 of the Note, all principal, interest, and any other amounts due on the Note are immediately due and payable. The amount due and payable on the Note as of January 8, 2021 is \$24,471,804.98; however, interest continues to accrue under the Note.

The Note is in default, and payment is due <u>immediately</u>. Payments on the Note must be made in immediately available funds. Payee's wire information is attached hereto as Appendix A.

Nothing contained herein constitutes a waiver of any rights or remedies of Payee under the Note or otherwise and all such rights and remedies, whether at law, equity, contract, or otherwise, are expressly reserved. Interest, including default interest if applicable, on the Note will continue to accrue until the Note is paid in full. Any such interest will remain the obligation of Maker.

Sincerely,

/s/ James P. Seery, Jr.

James P. Seery, Jr.
Highland Capital Management, L.P.
Chief Executive Officer/Chief Restructuring Officer



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cc: Fred Caruso
James Romey
Jeffrey Pomerantz
Ira Kharasch
Gregory Demo

DC Sauter

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## Appendix A

ABA #:

322070381

Bank Name:

East West Bank

Account Name: Highland Capital Management, LP

Account #:

5500014686

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1
             IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
2
              FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
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                         DALLAS DIVISION
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6
   HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT,
                                       )
   L.P.,
7
                    Plaintiff,
8
                                       ) No. 21-03004-sgj
               vs.
9
   HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT FUND )
10
   ADVISORS, L.P.,
11
                    Defendants.
12
13
                          DEPOSITION OF
14
                           DAVID KLOS
15
                       October 27, 2021
16
17
18
              DEPOSITION OF DAVID KLOS, produced as a
19
   witness, duly sworn by me via videoconference at the
20
   instance of the DEFENDANTS, was taken in the
21
   above-styled and numbered cause on October 27, 2021,
22
   from 2:30 P.M. to 5:14 P.M., before BRANDON D. COMBS,
23
   CSR, RPR, in and for the State of Texas, reported by
24
   computerized machine shorthand, at 500 North Akard
25
   Street, 38th Floor, Dallas, Texas.
```

_	
1	APPEARANCES
2	
3	MUNSCH, HARDT, KOPF & HARR, PC, 500 North
4	Akard Street, Suite 3800, Dallas, TX 75201, represented
5	by DAVOR RUKAVINA, Attorney at Law, appeared via
6	videoconference as counsel on behalf of the Defendants.
7	Email: drukavina@munsch.com
8	
9	
10	PACHULSKI, STANG, ZIEHL & JONES, 780 Third
11	Avenue, 34th Floor, New York, NY 10017-2024, represented
12	by JOHN A. MORRIS, Attorney at Law, appeared via
13	videoconference as counsel on behalf of the Plaintiff.
14	Email: jmorris@pszjlaw.com
15	
16	
17	STINSON, LLP, 3102 Oak Lawn Avenue, Suite 777,
18	Dallas, TX 75219, represented by MICHAEL AIGEN, Attorney
19	at Law, appeared via videoconference as counsel on
20	behalf of the Defendants Jim Dondero, HCMS and HCRE
21	Partners.
22	Email: michael.aigen@stinson.com
23	
24	
25	

1	INDEX	
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4	Examination by MR. AIGEN	95
5	Examination by MR. MORRIS	109
6	Further Examination by MR. RUKAVINA	127
7		
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10	(No exhibits marked.)	
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1		DAVID KLOS,	
2	having h	peen first duly sworn, testified as follows:	
3		EXAMINATION	
4	Q.	(BY MR. RUKAVINA) Sir, state your name for	
5	the record, please.		
6	A.	David Klos.	
7	Q.	K-1-o-s?	
8	A.	K-1-o-s.	
9	Q.	What's your date of birth?	
10	A.	May 6, 1982.	
11	Q.	And where do you live?	
12	A.	I live in Dallas.	
13	Q.	What's your educational background?	
14	A.	Undergraduate and graduate degrees. I went	
15	to undergrad at Boston College, graduate school at SMU,		
16	with a degree in, Master's of Science in accounting and		
17	MBA from SMU.		
18	Q.	Do you hold any professional licenses?	
19	A.	CPA in the state of Texas and, I don't know	
20	if it's technically a license, but Series 27 from		
21	FINRA.		
22	Q.	And when did you get your CPA license?	
23	A.	I don't recall specifically, but it would	
24	have been	probably in the '08, '09 time frame.	
25	Q.	Is it current?	

- A. As far as I know.
- Q. Have you ever been disciplined or threatened with disciplinary proceedings?
  - A. No.

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- Q. And your relevant work experience, please, starting with college and afterwards?
- A. Sure. Out of grad school I started working at Deloitte in Boston. I worked at Deloitte for approximately three and a half years, between the Boston office and the Dallas office.

And then I began working at Highland Capital Management in March of 2009 and I've been at Highland since then.

- Q. And when you joined Highland in March of 2009, what was your title or your role at that time?
- A. My title, if I remember correctly, was valuation senior analyst. I'm not certain if that was exactly it, but it was something along those lines.
  - Q. Was it in the valuation group?
- A. Yes.
  - Q. And then give me your -- today you're the CFO of Highland; correct?
    - A. Correct.
- Q. So give me the progression from valuation
  analyst to CFO with, to the best of your recollection,

the approximate year that you were promoted, et cetera?

A. Sure. I was in the valuation role from basically March of 2009 to end of 2009.

I was then brought over to what we call the corporate accounting team, so doing the accounting for Highland Capital Management, LP and of the other advisor-type entities, where I was primarily focused on budgeting and forecasting, credit facility compliance.

That took from roughly 2010 until I think middle of 2011, at which point I was moved over to the fund accounting group, so doing hedge fund accounting, which was a short role, really, for probably three or four months.

At which point I was brought back to the corporate team and also put in charge of the valuation group. I held that role in some way, shape, or form more or less continuously for the next several years, although certainly my role evolved and changed.

But in terms of the groups that I had oversight over, those were the groups. Like I said, my role definitely evolved over time from 2011.

- Q. So by 2017 what was your title?
- A. So, yeah, by that time, I was, I believe,

  controller. I might have still been assistant

  controller.

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There were a few title changes in between there. I think at one point I was manager, at one point I was senior manager, at one point I was assistant controller and at one point I was controller.

I can't remember the exact times of all of those break points.

- Q. Let me pause you. When you were assistant controller, who was the controller?
- A. There was quite a bit of time where I was assistant controller and we didn't have a controller.

  I couldn't tell you the exact time frame, but there was definitely an extended time frame.

And then in April of 2020, our existing chief accounting officer left and I assumed his responsibilities at that time.

- Q. Let me pause you. That's a new term for me. Chief accounting officer?
  - A. Uh-huh.

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- Q. Who was that person?
- A. The person that left?
- Q. The person that was the chief accounting officer until April 2020.
  - A. Cliff Stoops.
- Q. And do you have any idea or knowledge whether
  at Highland that was like an officer-level position?

1 Α. It was not. It was more of a term of art, I 2 would describe it. So it -- so, yeah --3 To the best of your recollection, when did 4 you become the controller at Highland Capital 5 Management, LP? 6 I couldn't pin down a specific date. Like I 7 said, the responsibilities were very similar. I would 8 quess the change from assistant controller to 9 controller was probably in the, most likely in the '16, 10 '17, maybe '18 time frame. 11 Can we agree that as of May 1, 2019, you were Q. the controller at Highland? 12 13 Α. Yes. 14 So let's focus on that time frame, May 2019, and you're the controller. Who do you report to at 15 16 Highland? 17 Α. Frank Waterhouse. 18 The CFO? 0. 19 Α. Correct. 20 No one in between you and him? Q. 21 Α. Correct. 22 So what -- explain to me the role between the Q. 23 chief accounting officer and the chief financial 24 officer in that time frame, '19, '20? 25 MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the

1 question. 2 THE WITNESS: Very little. Like I said, 3 chief accounting officer was more of a term of art. 4 What that role actually had oversight of was our retail 5 fund accounting, institutional fund accounting, 6 operations, so loan settlement and treasury. 7 And probably another department or two that 8 I'm forgetting, but it did not have any oversight over 9 the corporate accounting group. 10 (BY MR. RUKAVINA) And in May of 2019, as the 11 controller, what were -- what was your role or what 12 were your duties? 13 In May of 2019 I was at that point still 14 overseeing the valuation group. I was overseeing the 15 corporate accounting group, which my primary direct 16 report there was Kristin Hendrix, who really was the 17 day-to-day person. But I certainly oversaw her. 18 By that you mean the person that answers to 19 you? 20 Sorry. If I flipped that, I Α. Correct. 21 apologize. So I was overseeing that group, which had, 22 you know, fairly broad responsibilities. 23 In terms of, you know, accounting for the 24 Advisor, doing forecasts when they were called for, 25 performing the audit every year, managing cash,

processing payroll, things of that nature.

And then at that time I was also put in charge of one of the public REITs that was launching at the time under the NexPoint flag. And getting that team started.

- Q. Did you mention that in May of 2019 you were still involved with the valuation group?
  - A. I did.

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- Q. Did you have a title at the valuation group?
- A. Nothing distinct from my overall controller title. These titles were often, like I said, terms of art, whether it was controller or chief accounting officer.
  - Q. What did the valuation group at Highland do?
- A. Well, valuation group was really a liaison with both third-party pricing providers, pricing services, brokers on the street, front office, members at Highland.

To, you know, to work on valuing the securities held across the platform, both for Highland HCMLP managed funds as well as affiliated managed funds.

Q. So who did -- did you report to anyone at the valuation group? In other words, did it have its own separate hierarchy kind of?

1 I don't remember. THE WITNESS: A 2 significant number. 3 (BY MR. RUKAVINA) Certainly full-time? Q. 4 Absolutely. Α. 5 Would you say that you were working more than 6 200 hours a month in that time frame for Highland? 7 I don't know how many hours. I should Α. clarify, we're using Highland very liberally. When I 9 say Highland, supporting the entire apparatus, 10 platform. Significant number of hours at that time, and before and after. 11 12 And let's explore that a little bit. 0. 13 mentioned one of the funds for NexPoint. I'd like to 14 talk about NexPoint Advisors, LP, just NexPoint 15 Advisors, LP. 16 Did you ever have an official role or title 17 with NexPoint Advisors, LP? 18 Not that I can remember. 19 Do you know if you were ever the controller 20 for that entity? 21 Α. I'm not certain. I'm not certain. 22 But I take it that pursuant to the shared Q. 23 services agreement you, as an employee of Highland, 24 were providing services on behalf of NexPoint? 25 MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the

1	question.	
2	THE WITNESS: I provided many of the same	
3	services for NexPoint Advisors that I provided for	
4	Highland, similar types of services.	
5	Q. (BY MR. RUKAVINA) And briefly about Highland	
6	Capital Management Fund Advisors, LP, HCMFA, did you	
7	ever have like an official title or role with that	
8	entity, to your knowledge?	
9	A. Again, not that I can remember.	
10	Q. Not to your knowledge, the controller ever of	
11	that entity?	
12	A. I'm not certain whether I was or not.	
13	Q. But you provided services to that entity as	
14	part of your role at Highland pursuant to shared	
15	services?	
16	A. Similar to NexPoint as I described.	
17	Q. When you were controller of Highland, was	
18	that an officer-level position at Highland?	
19	A. No.	
20	Q. When did you become the chief financial	
21	officer of Highland?	
22	A. Chief financial officer?	
23	Q. Uh-huh.	
24	A. 2021, March.	
25	Q. After Mr. Waterhouse was gone?	

HCMFA APP 0666

A. Yes.

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Q. And I'm going to ask you a little bit about your compensation today at Highland.

You don't have to give me specific numbers unless I ask you, please, but I take it you have a base compensation?

- A. Yes, I have a base.
- Q. Do you have any bonus structure compensation?
- A. Yes, I have a bonus.
- Q. And what is that bonus number or whether it's paid out based upon or contingent upon?
- MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question.

THE WITNESS: As I understand, it's based on my offer letter.

- Q. (BY MR. RUKAVINA) On your what?
- A. My letter for extending an offer.
- Q. Tell me, what is your -- without having to use express numbers, what is your bonus compensation? When is it paid, et cetera?
- A. Yeah, so it's not too dissimilar from the prior Highland plan that has semiannual installments payable. And then there's a, kind of an end of plan bonus when -- I don't remember the specifics on exactly what triggers that, but it's back-ended in the plan.

- Q. Do you have an expectation as to when the winding down and monetization of Highland and its assets will be complete?
- A. That's very hard to speculate, especially given the amount of litigation that's going on because I don't know when that's going to play out and that's a material asset.
- Q. Have you discussed with Mr. Seery how long that might be?
  - A. Not that I can specifically remember.
- Q. Do you believe it will be at least probably two years, from today?
  - A. I don't know.

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- Q. This bonus compensation, does it or any amount of it depend on how well Highland or the claimant trust, how well they do vis-a-vis collecting money from creditors?
- A. Not that I can think of. I'd have to probably go back and look and understand the back-end piece to say definitively.
- Q. And back-end piece, does that mean whenever the winding down is completed?
- A. Yeah, like I said, I'm not exactly -- I'm not completely facile with the exact timing, if it's completed 100 percent or 80 percent, what kind of

qualitative considerations go into that. But substantially completed.

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- Q. Sitting here today, do you think or believe that any portion of your compensation over the next however long it takes to wind down Highland depends on how much Highland recovers from the litigation regarding promissory notes?
- A. I really take exception to that question because the insinuation is that it's going to somehow change my answers here, and it's absolutely not.

How litigation, it may or may not affect my ultimate compensation, but that's not going to affect one iota of the answers I give you today or at any time, whether I'm on or off the record.

- Q. Fair enough. So you're going to testify today truthfully regardless of your compensation. I got you; right? Correct?
  - A. I didn't follow what you just asked me.
- Q. You're going to testify today truthfully regardless of how these events may or may not affect your compensation; right?
- A. It's such a loaded question I can't even begin to answer that.
- Q. So sitting here today -- I want to ask you the same question I did before, and your answer to me

MR. MORRIS: Right. And your clients have

about his compensation.

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- \$75 million, hard dollars at stake in this litigation,
  so we should never believe anything that he says? Is
  that where we are now?
  - Q. (BY MR. RUKAVINA) Sir, again, what is your bonus compensation as it relates to how well the claimant trust does? Do you remember or not?
  - A. I don't know that that's even something that I could know at this point.
  - Q. In preparing for this deposition, I take it you spoke to legal counsel, and I'm not entitled to know that and I'm not asking that.

But did you talk to anyone else?

- A. I've spoken in general terms to Mr. Seery.
- Q. Okay. Anyone else?
- A. I've spoken, again in general terms, to Kristin Hendrix.
  - Q. Anyone else?
  - A. Not that I can think of.
- Q. Now, I understand you spoke to Ms. Hendrix
  when legal counsel was present; right?
  - A. Yes.

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- O. So let's exclude that conversation.
- Did you have any conversations with

  Ms. Hendrix regarding this deposition or this

  litigation at which counsel was not present?

## David Klos - October 27, 2021

1 Α. Not in any substance. 2 And when do you recall you might have had 0. 3 those discussions with her? 4 Α. I'm not even sure. 5 Would it have been recently or like 9, 0. 6 10 months ago? 7 No, it would have been recently. Α. 8 0. And with Mr. Seery, when did you have a 9 general conversation with Mr. Seery? 10 I've had, you know, one or more general 11 conversations with Mr. Seery. It's my understanding 12 that he was the 30(b)(6) witness, and he had questions 13 in preparation for his role in that. 14 So that would have been before last Thursday Q. 15 that you talked to him? I'll represent to you that 16 that's when his deposition was. 17 Yeah, if I'm accepting that representation, 18 ves, prior to. 19 Ο. Other than that conversation with respect to 20 him preparing for the 30(b)(6), did you have a 21 discussion with him about this litigation as it might 22 relate to your deposition? 23 Α. I don't believe so in terms of relating to 24 this deposition. We've talked at length about the

notes more generally.

(BY MR. RUKAVINA) Did you read any pages

Q.

1 THE WITNESS: Before I answer that, I'd like 2 to see the note. 3 (BY MR. RUKAVINA) It's in here. I'm looking Q. 4 for the exhibit number. It's in here somewhere. 5 Α. Yes, I'm familiar with this note. 6 Are you familiar with anything having to do 7 with the negotiation or execution of this note? 8 MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the 9 question. 10 THE WITNESS: Can you repeat. 11 (BY MR. RUKAVINA) Yes. Let me rephrase it. Q. 12 Did you have anything to do, back on or about 13 May 31, 2017, with the negotiation or execution of this 14 promissory note? 15 MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the 16 question. 17 THE WITNESS: Nothing with respect to the 18 negotiation --19 (BY MR. RUKAVINA) I'm sorry. Ο. 20 In terms of the execution, I believe I 21 coordinated with internal counsel, who drafted the 22 note, and I can't remember -- I can't recall one way or 23 the other if I assisted in actually physically 24 receiving signatures. I just don't remember. 25 Do you remember who that internal counsel Q.

was?

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- A. Yeah, it was Lauren Thedford, who is Highland in-house counsel.
  - Q. She's a lawyer?
  - A. Yes.
  - Q. Do you recall from that -- strike that.

Did you know on or about May 31, 2017 what the purpose or reason behind Exhibit 13, this promissory note, was?

MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question.

THE WITNESS: The purpose was to take existing notes, which I believe were exclusively demand notes, I'm not a hundred percent certain on that, and roll them into a single note that would have a 30-year amortization period.

- Q. (BY MR. RUKAVINA) Do you know why that was done?
- A. I believe it was done probably for a number of reasons, one of which was to ensure some level of cash flow back to Highland, when I say Highland, Highland Capital Management, LP, on an annual basis.
- Q. Was that a concern at Highland Capital

  Management, that it wasn't getting any level of cash

  flow back?

- A. It wasn't a concern of mine. I don't know if
  the it was a concern of others.
  - Q. Do you recall whether any auditor ever raised that concern?
  - A. The auditors did raise that in conjunction with the audit that was concluding around this time. So yes, they did raise it, you know, probably in the May of 2017 time frame.
  - Q. Do you know who decided that it would be a 30-year term note? By that I mean 30 years.
    - A. Jim Dondero.

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- Q. Do you know if he decided that in connection with discussions with anybody or, to your knowledge, he just decided?
  - A. As far as I know he just decided it. I believe there was a draft at one point that was for 20 years, and he wanted to do 30.
  - Q. So this note is executed in May 31, 2017.

    Did you have any further role prior to, let's say,

    December 1, 2020 with respect to anything to do with
    this promissory note?
    - A. Sorry, tell me the date again.
- Q. From execution of the note until December 1, 24 2020?
  - A. And the question was?

where things like upcoming, whether it's an obligation

or a receipt, would be put on people's radars.

And we would, in connection with the 30-year notes such as this one from NexPoint, we would either confer with Jim or -- certainly Jim. Also likely his accountant.

In terms of teeing them up to make sure that they were prepared from a cash flow statement to make the payment.

- Q. What do you mean by his accountant?
- A. Melissa Schroth.

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- Q. What do you mean by his? That's a new name to me. Who is Melissa Schroth?
- A. I find it hard to believe that she's a new name to you. But I think her title was executive accountant, and she was the keeper of Jim's -- many of Jim's trusts and personal entities.
  - Q. Was she a Highland employee?
- A. She was. And when I say Highland, I should be clear, Highland Capital Management, LP.
- Q. So when you say Jim's accountant, she was still a debtor employee, just that she handled primarily Jim's personal matters?
- A. She was still a Highland Capital Management, LP employee but she did Jim's personal matters.
  - Q. Did you have any role at either Highland

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   Capital Management or NexPoint Advisors as to a
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   decision as to whether any prepayments on this note
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   would ever be made?
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             MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the
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   question.
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              THE WITNESS:
                            Can you repeat.
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              (BY MR. RUKAVINA) Let's start from scratch.
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              Do you have any memory of any payments being
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   made on this note, Exhibit 13, prior to their scheduled
   dates of payment?
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              There were payments on -- and to be clear,
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   we're talking about the original 30.7- NexPoint
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   promissory note? There were payments that I recall
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   happening throughout 2019 on this note.
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             And we can look at Exhibit 14.
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             MR. MORRIS: What number?
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             MR. RUKAVINA:
                             14, 1-4.
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              (BY MR. RUKAVINA) And those are only
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   numbered because Ms. Hendrix, they were used for her
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   deposition.
              Sure. Just trying to keep these in order, I
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        Α.
22
   apologize. Got it.
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        0.
              Do you recognize Exhibit 14?
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             Generally. I can't say that I can verify
        Α.
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   that this is completely accurate. But it looks
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familiar to a loan amortization schedule.

- Q. Would it have been maintained by Highland?
- A. Yes.

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Q. And I'll tell you that no one has yet to authenticate this with a hundred percent precision, so I'm not asking you to ratify these numbers, but let's assume that they are what they are.

This does purport to show on the second page a number of transfers in 2019, which goes along with your recent answer.

Do you see those, sir?

- A. I do.
- Q. In particular, 750,000, then 1.3 million, 300,000, 2.1 million, 630,000, 1.3 million.

You see all those, sir?

- A. Yes, I see every one.
- Q. Do you have any memory, without going into those transfers of those dates to the dollar, do you have any memory that those transfers were made?
- A. Yes. Again, not a specific recollection of where I was at the time, but yes, I know that these transfers were made.
- Q. Do you know why they were made in those amounts and on those dates?
  - A. No, not without speculating.

1 0. What would be your speculation if you were to 2 speculate? 3 Α. My speculation would be that it would be for 4 liquidity needs at HCMLP, Highland Capital Management, 5 LP, needing liquidity to operate. Again, that's 6 speculation. I don't know for a fact that that's true, but that's what I would assume. 8 Who would have made those decisions in 2019 9 to transfer those funds? 10 MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the 11 question. 12 THE WITNESS: Yeah, it would have been either 13 Frank or Jim. I can't say with certainty, but one of 14 the two. When I say Jim, I should be clear, 15 Mr. Dondero. 16 Ο. (BY MR. RUKAVINA) Between January and 17 July 2019, do you have any recollection that there was 18 any particular liquidity issue or need at Highland 19 Capital Management? 20 Α. Yeah, Highland was dealing with liquidity 21 problems throughout 2019. Maybe not every single day 22 of the year, but we were continuously needing to bridge 23 liquidity. 24 And you joined Highland in 2009. From that 25 point in time, 2009, through 2019, was there any

practice at the enterprise of those businesses to
transfer funds between each other on a basis of when
one needed it and one had it?

- A. Yes, that was a fairly, generally speaking, that was a fairly common practice, of using different entities within the overall structure to bridge liquidity.
- Q. Would that have been Mr. Dondero who, in the final analysis, would have made those decisions?
- A. Maybe not a hundred percent, but I'd say the -- if not a hundred percent, certainly most.
- Q. And who else might have participated,
  Mr. Waterhouse?
  - A. Potentially Mr. Waterhouse. And the reason I hedge on that a little bit is I don't think Frank would have made any of these decisions on his own either.

    But I may have heard them from Frank via Jim.
- Q. So in those same years, were you ever asked by Mr. Dondero or Mr. Waterhouse as to whether funds should be transferred from one entity to another for liquidity purposes?
  - A. Can you ask that again, please.
- Q. Yes. Trying to understand, were you part of those discussions as to whether these transfers should be made, or did you just learn that a decision to make

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them had been made and you executed them?

- A. Both, depending on the circumstances.
- Q. So sometimes you would be brought into a discussion?
  - A. Yes.

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- Q. And can you think of any particular example?
- A. Of when I was brought into the discussion of whether to transfer? I can't think of an individual example but we met quite regularly with Jim on cash.

So to the extent that either he needed cash on one of his entities, he might let us know that. Or to the extent that Highland needed cash, we might let him know that and ask for basically his assistance in helping us to meet our own cash needs.

- Q. And did he usually find a way to facilitate the cash need either at one of his entities or at Highland?
  - A. I suppose until October 16 of 2019.
- Q. Yes. Prior to bankruptcy, do you recall any instance where one entity wasn't able to transfer funds to another for liquidity purposes?
- A. I can't think of a specific situation. But I'm sure there were situations where -- you know, cash was always something that was being juggled, so I don't know that necessarily liquidity could be met the same

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But eventually we were able to manage through those situations, you know, oftentimes through some of these loans.

- Q. In instances that you may remember when Highland Capital Management needed liquidity, do you know how Mr. Dondero decided from which other entity to transfer the cash?
- A. I can't step into his brain and think about his decision-making process, but if I was going to oversimplify it I would speculate that it would be based on who has cash in that moment.
- Q. Would he ask you or someone on your team who had cash?
- A. At times, depending on which entity we're talking about. Because my team certainly didn't have responsibility for every single entity in the enterprise, but we did have responsibility for some.
  - Q. And if your team -- so -- strike that.

So over the general -- talking about generally now, over those 10 years when there were these intercompany transfers for liquidity purposes, how were they booked by the debtor, by Highland Capital Management?

MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the

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THE WITNESS: Help me on the direction. So this is money that Highland is receiving or money that Highland is sending?

- Ο. (BY MR. RUKAVINA) Sending out.
- So this is -- in the scenario Α. Sending out. that you're describing, this money that Highland is sending out to meet some other corporate obligor's liquidity needs?
  - 0. Yes, sir.
- So those would be booked as a loan. would -- I need to hedge a little bit because I'm not a hundred percent certain, but I would say if not exclusively via loans close to exclusively.
  - Ο. And would they -- strike that.
- Would they usually be papered up with a promissory note?
  - Α. Yes.
- 19 Now, why was that the general course during 20 10 years? Was there a policy and procedure in place, 21 or would Dondero say book it as a loan, or was that 22 just the right thing to do from an accounting 23 perspective?
- 24 MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the 25 question.

THE WITNESS: At the end of the day it's at the direction of Jim Dondero, so I can't tell you exactly why he wanted it to be done that way. But that was certainly the practice of how it was done in those situations.

- Q. (BY MR. RUKAVINA) To your knowledge, did Jim Dondero ever tell you or anyone else that when Highland is transferring funds to one of his affiliated entities that it should always be booked as a loan?
- A. So remembering 10 years' worth of conversations, I can't remember a specific instance where he would have said, always book every single transaction I direct you to do as a loan. However, that was the practice.
  - Q. Different question.

Do you remember that in each instance, and again, that might be unfair over 10 years, but do you remember in each instance when Mr. Dondero said transfer money from Highland to this other entity for liquidity needs that he said book it as a loan?

MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question.

THE WITNESS: I can't recall with any specificity what he may or may not have specifically said so long ago.

To your knowledge, was Q. (BY MR. RUKAVINA) there any written policy or procedure in place at Highland Capital Management with respect to how transfers from Highland to an affiliated entity should be booked or treated? Α. No written policy or procedure that I'm aware of. Is it fair to say that by May 2019, the 0. corporate accounting group had handled so many of these transfers that it believed that if Highland was transferring funds to another affiliated entity, it's probably a loan? MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question. Yeah, I don't know that I can THE WITNESS: answer that in terms of the corporate accounting team. That just feels way too broad. It was certainly the practice that when somebody needed liquidity and it was appropriate from an accounting perspective, that's how it would be booked. And there was no reason to doubt that that was the appropriate way to do it, particularly with direction from either Frank or Jim. (BY MR. RUKAVINA) Is it your testimony that 0. in each instance that happened, that either Frank or

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1 Jim said, this is a loan, the "this" being the transfer 2 from Highland to an affiliated entity for liquidity 3 purposes? 4 MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the 5 question. 6 THE WITNESS: I can't recall with that level 7 of specificity if those words came out of Jim's mouth. But with 0 percent doubt in my mind, every single one of those loans was done with the authority of Jim or 10 Frank, or both. 11 (BY MR. RUKAVINA) So going back to this Q. 12 Exhibit 14, now I'm going to ask you about these 13 payments coming in. 14 Assuming that these payments were actually 15 made in 2019 --16 And I think, John, you sent me this morning, 17 or maybe last night, some bank statements? 18 MR. MORRIS: I actually sent all of the 19 backup for all payments made, I think, under the notes 20 at issue a week or two ago. 21 Q. (BY MR. RUKAVINA) How would -- so assuming 22 that these payments in 2019 that NexPoint made didn't 23 technically have to be made at that point in time, how 24 would Highland have booked these payments? 25 So I can't tell the column headers, so you'll

have to excuse me if I flip them.

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- Q. They'll be on the first page. Rip the page off if you need to.
- A. First one is interest, second one is principal. On the far right is the actual amount of the payment. So, for example, March 29, 750,000.

And the -- the column that has the negative 411,000 is the application of interest and the 338- is the application of principal.

Q. So again, if Highland -- strike that.

If NexPoint made a payment that was not technically due at that point in time, it would be recorded as payments on principal and interest?

- A. It would be recorded as it's reflected in the schedule. So there's an application of interest and an application of principal.
- Q. So based on your understanding and experience, if that payment wasn't due at that time, would it have been a prepayment by NexPoint?
- MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question.

THE WITNESS: Yeah, I'm not sure that it's a prepayment or not. It's certainly a payment. It's certainly voluntary. It's not spelled out under the schedule. I don't know that it's a per se, capital P,

prepayment. I'm just not certain.

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Q. (BY MR. RUKAVINA) Well, maybe without respect to these specific transfers.

Generally, generally, if one of the Dondero affiliates made a payment that wasn't scheduled, how would the debtor have accounted for that payment?

- A. It would have recorded the payment as a reduction to either or both outstanding accrued interest or principal.
  - Q. You wouldn't call those prepayments?
- A. I don't know the definition of prepayment. It's a payment. It's off schedule, but I don't know whether it's a per se prepayment.
- Q. Would that be something in your experience that we would look at the promissory note to maybe determine?
- MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question.

THE WITNESS: I don't know.

Q. (BY MR. RUKAVINA) Well, remember, I'm asking you the same question just in different ways.

Who decides at the debtor, or how does the debtor decide, if an unscheduled payment is made, how to apply it?

MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the

question.

Q. (BY MR. RUKAVINA) And his objection is valid. And just to give you a little bit of a fine point, does someone look at the promissory note to decide that? Or is there some other rule or procedure that someone looks at?

MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question.

THE WITNESS: So the person -- I don't know that I can specifically name a person because the role probably changed over time.

But either our corporate accountant, or the corporate accountant's boss, which was Kristin Hendrix for years, would have been responsible for recording and tracking those payments.

So some combination of the corporate accountant and Kristin would have applied those payments, and that rolls up through my and Frank's review ultimately.

Q. (BY MR. RUKAVINA) So if I can round off this discussion, I think you told me a few minutes ago that in each instance that Highland was transferring money out to an affiliate.

Whether or not you remember Dondero or Waterhouse saying it's a loan, it would have been a

bold.

- Q. Can you think of any other reason in 2019?
- A. Well, Highland had -- Highland had shared services and intercompany agreements with NexPoint, at this time.

But these were not payments that could possibly be confused with those payments. These are off cycle, they're larger amounts, and there's nothing that they could be other than payments against the loan.

Q. So I asked you before, and I think you said that you were speculating with respect to these payments, that Highland needed money at that time.

Do you recall in 2019 any discussions with anyone, Dondero or Waterhouse, to the effect that NexPoint has excess cash so maybe NexPoint should transfer some money to Highland?

MR. MORRIS: Objection. Asked and answered.
THE WITNESS: Do I still answer?

- Q. (BY MR. RUKAVINA) Yes.
  - MR. MORRIS: Yes.
    - THE WITNESS: And sorry, I got lost there.
- Q. (BY MR. RUKAVINA) Yes. So my predicate was you testified before that you were assuming that these payments were because of a cash need at Highland; right?

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- Q. So with that predicate my question is, do you recall discussing with Dondero or Waterhouse or with anyone as to why NexPoint would be transferring money to Highland at that time?
- A. Yes, I would have had conversations with Mr. Dondero or Mr. Waterhouse.
- Q. And do you remember specifically in 2019 why these transfers were made from NexPoint as opposed to some other Dondero entity?
- A. Not with specificity, but certainly NexPoint was generating cash at that time, and had the ability to assist with Highland's liquidity.
- Q. So sitting here today, you've told me generally and logically that you have no specific memory why between January 2019 and August 2019, any of these payments on Exhibit 14 were made by NexPoint?
- A. I have no specific memory, but I would say with certainty that most or all of this was driven by Highland HCMLP liquidity needs.
- Q. And most or all of this would have been Highland in the first instance going to NexPoint and saying, hey, can you send us some cash?
- MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question.

THE WITNESS: Yeah, the premise of that, given that Mr. Dondero is in control of both sides, it's a faulty premise.

Q. (BY MR. RUKAVINA) But you told me not that long ago that in these weekly cash meetings that it would be your team at Highland who would go to Mr. Dondero and say Highland has a liquidity issue.

So wouldn't that liquidity issue have originated with the Highland team?

A. Mr. Dondero is the president of Highland.

He's the president of NexPoint. We're employees of

Highland. We're also shared services providers for

NexPoint.

The waters are very muddy in terms of who is wearing what hat in that conversation.

- Q. But Mr. Dondero doesn't know that Highland has a liquidity issue unless someone from the corporate accounting group tells him, does he?
- MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question. I hope that's not the case.

THE WITNESS: He has the ability to know what our cash position is at any given time, at that time.

Q. (BY MR. RUKAVINA) So why would you have these weekly cash meetings with Mr. Waterhouse and sometimes Mr. Dondero?

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MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the

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question.

THE WITNESS: Again, the term "prepayments" is the one I'm struggling with. I can ascertain that there are payments and they're off schedule. But I don't know that I can ascertain that they're prepayments. (BY MR. RUKAVINA) Well, if a borrower makes 0. a payment that's ahead of schedule, how would that generally be accounted for? MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question. THE WITNESS: It would be accounted for as a reduction of principal or interest or some combination of the two. (BY MR. RUKAVINA) Which would relieve the Q. borrower of having to make that at some point in the future; right? MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question. THE WITNESS: No. The borrower still owes the money. This is showing 23-point -- pick a date. May 31, 23.034-. That there's significant obligations that are still outstanding. 0. (BY MR. RUKAVINA) So on June 4, 2019 -- I'm sorry, on June 19, 2019, the borrower made a \$2.1 million payment. That's what this shows; correct?

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accrued interest of this note. So I read that to say

that the maker may pay outstanding accrued interest, or unpaid principal.

- Q. (BY MR. RUKAVINA) But my question is, as I understand accrued interest, it means interest that has already occurred or accrued as of the date, like today's date; right?
  - A. Uh-huh.

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- MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question.
- Q. (BY MR. RUKAVINA) Do you agree with that?

  Do you agree with that? Accrued interest

  means interest that has already come due, that has

  actually happened because interest happens over time.
  - A. Accrued interest --
- MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question.
- Q. (BY MR. RUKAVINA) Why don't you start. Why don't you define for me accrued interest.
- A. Sure. Accrued interest would be outstanding and unpaid interest that -- sorry, it's hard to define it without using the term. But it's interest that's accumulated in respect of a principal amount through a given date.
  - Q. So how do you prepay accrued interest?
  - A. How do you prepay accrued interest. Again,

THE WITNESS: The way that I would read that would be that for a payment, for example, pick a date,

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1 Exhibit 14 again, the \$2.1 million payment on or about 2 I see that a payment was made. 3 And it was -- it appears that there was 4 accrued and unpaid interest at that time of 66,000. 5 so the first 66,000 was applied to outstanding accrued 6 interest, to bring the balance to zero. 7 And the difference between that 66,000 and the 2.1 million was applied to principal. 9 (BY MR. RUKAVINA) Do you believe, whether 10 from personal knowledge from this note, Exhibit 13, or 11 your experience at Highland or as a CPA, that one can 12 say that interest, accrued interest will be due on a 13 future date, it will accrue by that date, but I'm going 14 to pay it earlier as of that date? 15 Objection to the form of the MR. MORRIS: 16 question. 17 THE WITNESS: If I can rephrase back to you 18 just so I make sure I'm understanding the question. 19 You're saying could someone say, I would like to prepay 20 interest into the future. It hasn't accrued yet, but 21 it will be accrued by end of year. 22 And I would like to be prepaid effectively 23

with respect to that interest, and then have the remainder used to pay down principal.

The question is, can someone do that?

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1	Q. (BY MR. RUKAVINA) Yes.
2	MR. MORRIS: I object to the question.
3	THE WITNESS: I suppose it's possible, but
4	that certainly wasn't the practice if that makes sense.
5	Q. (BY MR. RUKAVINA) That does make sense. I'm
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7	still struggling, and again, I'm not trying to be a
	smart aleck. I'm still struggling with the first
8	sentence of paragraph 3, that maker may prepay accrued
9	interest.
10	And it sounds like to me like you don't
11	necessarily have a definitive answer as to what that
12	might have meant either.
13	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the
14	question.
15	THE WITNESS: I think the document speaks for
16	itself in that sentence.
17	Q. (BY MR. RUKAVINA) But have you seen
18	something like this, to your recollection, in other
19	Highland promissory notes?
20	A. Something like what?
21	Q. Prepaying accrued interest.
22	A. Yes, I have seen that.
23	Q. What's your memory? Where have you seen
24	that?
25	A. I can't remember a specific note, but I
-5	A. I can c remember a specific note, but I

believe that has been done in a specific circumstance.

- Q. So at least at Highland, you would believe that that phrase, prepaying accrued interest, had some established meaning at Highland?
- MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question.

THE WITNESS: No, I don't agree with that.

- Q. (BY MR. RUKAVINA) Okay. You understand, of course, that it's Highland's position that with respect to this note, a payment was due on December 31 of 2020 that wasn't made; correct?
- A. Yes, it's my understanding -- if I can state it back just so I make sure I'm getting it correctly. It's my understanding that there was a payment due on December 31, 2020, that wasn't made timely, yes.
- Q. Okay. Do you know why that payment wasn't made timely?
- A. By recollection, because Mr. Dondero had directed people not to process payments from Highland affiliates to Highland.
  - Q. When did you learn of that?
  - A. Early December 2020.
  - Q. How did you learn of that?
- A. I don't specifically remember the
  conversation, but I know I had conversations with both

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- 1 Kristin and Frank. I can't remember if those were
  2 individual or collective, but we understood that to be
  3 the marching orders.
  - Q. Did you hear Mr. Dondero say anything like that?
    - A. I did not.
  - Q. Did Mr. Waterhouse tell you that Mr. Dondero said something like that to him?
    - A. Yes.

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- Q. Okay. Separately, do you remember whether
  Ms. Hendrix told you that Mr. Waterhouse told her that,
  or would it have been kind of at the same meeting?
- A. I don't remember specifically. It would have been all around the same time.
- Q. And to the best of your recollection, what words -- strike that.
- To the best of your recollection, did

  Mr. Waterhouse include a reference to promissory notes
  and the Advisors when he said that Dondero told him not
  to make payments?
- MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question.
- THE WITNESS: I don't remember the specific words that Mr. Waterhouse used. My clear impression was that it was a very global instruction.

talking about. I would not characterize it the way that you characterized it.

- Q. (BY MR. RUKAVINA) And we'll talk about this more in November, so I really don't want to go into any detail, unless you feel the need to.
- But, so you did not prepare that analysis?

  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question.
- THE WITNESS: I prepared an analysis that differed from how you described it.
- Q. (BY MR. RUKAVINA) How would you describe it, in a nutshell?
  - A. I would describe it as I was asked to refresh a spreadsheet using certain assumptions, based on the direction of Frank Waterhouse, and I updated and I sent him an email.
- Q. Do you have any understanding that that analysis was then shared with Mr. Dondero by Mr. Waterhouse?
- A. I know that now. I didn't know that at the time.
- Q. Do you have any understanding -- strike that.

  Did you have any understanding that as of
  early December 2020 the reason why Mr. Dondero said
  what he said to Mr. Waterhouse was because that

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- 0. (BY MR. RUKAVINA) Prior to December 31, 2020, do you recall any discussion that you had with Mr. Seery about this NexPoint note?
- Not that I can remember. If there was, it would have been in a cash meeting, but I don't remember

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- No, none that I can remember.
- How do you recall learning that the note had 0. been called by Highland?
- Α. I honestly don't remember. I think after the fact. I couldn't tell you how far after the fact.
- 24 Are you aware that on or about July -- I'm Q. 25 sorry, January 14, 2021 NexPoint made a \$1.4 million

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- or about that time, January 14, 2021, as to why NexPoint made that payment?
  - Not that I can remember.

- Q. Did you have any discussion with anybody on or about that time, January 14, 2021, as to how HCMLP should account for that payment?
  - A. No.

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- Q. Did you have any discussion with Mr. Seery at all about whether that payment should or shouldn't reinstate the note?
  - A. No discussion that I can remember.
- Q. Is it fair to say that any of those considerations would have been at that point in time above your paygrade?
- MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question.
- THE WITNESS: Yeah, paygrade, I don't know how to respond to that. Like I said before, I wasn't on the team at that point. I wouldn't have been involved in that determination regardless of my compensation.
- Q. (BY MR. RUKAVINA) So you know and you remember that in early December 2020 Frank Waterhouse told you that Dondero had directed no more payments by the Advisors. And you know that a payment was made on January 14.
- And that's pretty much the extent of your knowledge about the missed December 31 payment?

MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question.

THE WITNESS: Yeah, it's a very broad question. In general terms, yes.

Q. (BY MR. RUKAVINA) Well, I'm not asking what you learned since then.

I'm asking that as of, let's say, January 15, 2021 that would have been the extent of what you would have known?

A. Correct. And if I can just restate and make sure I understand what I'm saying.

It would have been my understanding that we had had an instruction -- when I say "we," Kristin and Frank and by default the whole corporate team -- not to make payments from these affiliated entities.

To my knowledge, none of those payments had occurred since that point. And then on or about January 14, such a payment was made and I found out about that by seeing a wire confirm.

- Q. Well, you mentioned a couple times that you, in December 2020, you weren't part of that group anymore. So do you have any understanding as to why Mr. Waterhouse would have told you in particular, you being Mr. Klos, about that instruction from Dondero?
  - A. Sure. I still was participating in cash

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meetings, even if it was almost in a nominal role,
because of some of my history that I had. So I was
still participating in those meetings.

I've worked closely with Kristin for a long time, so I may have caught up with her informally. But as far as day-to-day duties, I wasn't part of that team anymore.

- Q. And is it your, did I understand you correctly, is it your testimony that Mr. Waterhouse informed the whole accounting group there, the corporate accounting group, of Mr. Dondero's instruction?
- A. I don't know specifically who he told, if he told every single member of the team, but he certainly told Kristin and Kristin was the head of the team.
- Q. And you don't recall anyone, after you heard about that instruction, raising any concern to the effect that NexPoint is going to default and be in trouble if that payment isn't made?
- A. I don't remember any discussion to that effect.
- Q. Do you remember anyone suggesting that they ought to try to dissuade Mr. Dondero from that direction?
  - A. Not that I can remember.

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Do you remember any discussion at that 0. approximate point in time for your cash meetings or anything else as to whether NexPoint had made any prepayments on the promissory note? MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question. THE WITNESS: Yeah, it's very hard to -- by the way, I've said yeah a few times. I want to make clear that that's just --(BY MR. RUKAVINA) That's not a yes? Q. Α. I apologize for that. 0. Understood. Yeah means, it's not a yes. MR. MORRIS: It's a pause; it's an um. (BY MR. RUKAVINA) Germans call it flavoring Q. particle. Α. Sorry, I got lost there. If you can ask again. Do you recall in November or Yeah. December 2020 in your weekly meetings or anything else, any discussion whatsoever concerning whether NexPoint had made any prepayments on its note? Α. No discussions of whether or not there had been a prepayment that I can remember, no.

To the best of your knowledge sitting here

today -- strike that.

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For my next question, again we're assuming that Exhibit 14 is what it appears to be.

Sure, sure.

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- So with that qualification, to the best of your knowledge, other than what's on Exhibit 14, can you think of any other record or source or document that would address whether any unscheduled payments by NexPoint would or wouldn't be prepayments on the note?
- MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question.

THE WITNESS: Again, with the struggle of the prepayment, this is the document that I would expect to explain how the payment was applied.

- Q. (BY MR. RUKAVINA) But you yourself did not play any role in deciding how the payment would be applied?
- I'd hesitate to say no role, because the team ultimately rolls up to me.
  - You personally? Ο.
- Α. Me personally, I wouldn't have prepared these schedules.
- Or decided, you personally, as Mr. Klos, how Q. any unscheduled payments should be accounted for by Highland?
  - Correct, not without some -- some Α.

- authoritative direction on how they should be applied.
- Q. And that authoritative direction would have come from Mr. Waterhouse or Mr. Dondero?
  - A. That's what I would expect.
- Q. Could it have come from anyone else that you can think of here today?
  - A. Not that I can think of.
- Q. Now we're going to switch gears and I think we're going to stop discussing the NexPoint note, and we're going to focus on the HCMFA two promissory notes.
  - A. Sure.

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- Q. So we're going to go back in time to
  May 2019; okay?
  - A. Sure.
  - Q. And is it fair to say by -- that by May 2019 there were at least dozens if not hundreds of instances of intercompany loans in the years leading up there from Highland to one of the other entities?
  - MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question.
    - THE WITNESS: From Highland to one of the other entities. Can you help with other entities.
  - Q. (BY MR. RUKAVINA) Advisors, the trusts, any of the Dondero entities?
    - MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the

So certainly either Jim or Frank directed you to transfer the \$2.4 million; correct?

- A. Either Jim or Frank would have directed, yes. There's 0 percent chance I would have sent this email if I didn't feel a hundred percent confident that this was authorized in the way that I described in the email.
- Q. But can you also say with certainty that either Dondero or Waterhouse also told you that this transfer is an intercompany loan?
- A. With a hundred percent certainty, yes. I can't say that necessarily with respect to Dondero, because I don't remember if I would have talked to him specifically about it. But, yes, this would have been clear that it's a loan.
- Q. You say clear. Did someone tell you that it's a loan, or are you just, because of the prior 10 years of course and conduct, logically deciding that it has to be a loan?
- MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question.
- THE WITNESS: So this is -- this is not just a situation of past practice. I would have known with certainty that this was a loan and that's what was authorized.

- Q. (BY MR. RUKAVINA) How would you have known with certainty that it was a loan?
- A. I'll say in part because of past practice, but also because of the nature of what the money was going to be used for, and the background behind it.
  - Q. So you knew that nature and that background?
- A. The nature and background of the 2.4 million, yes.
- Q. So you've told me that in part -- I asked you how did you know it was a loan. You said in part past practices, in part you knew the nature. Anything else?
- A. I'm certain that given that I wrote this email, which Frank is on, that I would have had a conversation with Frank about what this was.
- Q. Was Jim Dondero in the corporate accounting email?
  - A. No, he wasn't.

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- Q. So what is your understanding as to what this
  19 \$2.4 million was for?
  - A. This related to -- well, to separate the transaction, the 2.4- itself relates to a promissory note. That's what was executed.
  - HCMFA's use of the 2.4 million was to reimburse a fund that it managed called Highland Global Allocation Fund for a NAV error that had occurred

THE WITNESS: It's -- in respect to people, not particularly. In respect to parties, Houlihan Lokey was the service provider that performed the valuation that resulted in the NAV error.

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And as I described before, the valuation function was housed at HCMLP by HCMLP employees supporting that through, among other people, front office, compliance, other parts of the organization as well.

- Q. (BY MR. RUKAVINA) So it was your understanding that Highland was loaning \$2.4 million to HCMFA for HCMFA to compensate that fund?
  - A. Yes.

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- Q. Did you have any understanding that Highland might have been, instead of loaning that money, actually paying that money to HCMFA to compensate HCMFA for Highland's valuation error?
- A. First, not Highland's valuation error. But second, no, there's no way that that would have been what that payment was for.
- Q. Why can you say that there's no way that that would have been what that payment was for?
- A. First, this wasn't the first NAV error that ever occurred. There had been other NAV errors. There were other NAV errors with respect to this valuation that pertain to NexPoint Advisors.

There was no reimbursement from HCMLP to NexPoint or HCMFA, regardless of any individual being identified as the person. That had just never occurred

1 to my knowledge. 2 Second, the amount was to meet the liquidity 3 need of HCMFA. It wasn't to -- it wasn't to 4 dollar-for-dollar make up for the NAV error. It was 5 that's how much money HCMFA needed. 6 Third, it was definitely Dondero's practice 7 and preference to have expenses at HCMFA for tax 8 purposes. So if this was compensation, he would ultimately not really be benefiting from the deduction 10 so. 11 That would have been a strong preference of 12 his against having it be compensation. 13 So it would have been excruciatingly clear 14 that this was a loan for liquidity for HCMFA to make 15 the fund whole, just like it had in the past NAV 16 errors. 17 How did you know that HCMFA needed 18 \$2.4 million for liquidity? 19 At that point I was still part of the 20 corporate team, so I had a good sense of how much cash 21 HCMFA would have had at any given moment. And at that 22 given moment it would not have had -- I'd be shocked if it had even 2.4-. 23

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transferred those funds because Highland had the funds?

Yes. And I should clarify that Highland only

Α.

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1 had the funds because Mr. Dondero repaid personal notes 2 to HCMLP on the same days. 3 So he paid 2.4 million on May 2, which 4 Highland turned around and reloaned. And he paid 4.4-5 on May 3, and Highland sent out 5-, so there's a 6 \$600,000 difference. And my recollection, he paid the other 600,000 via note repayment within a few days. 8 So this would have been part of some broader 9 transaction in Mr. Dondero's mind? I would not characterize it that way. 10 11 You established that HCMFA needed money. You 12 established that Highland temporarily had money because 13 Dondero provided it with money. 14 But you still don't know, sir, as a fact as 15 to whether that transfer was a loan or some other 16 payment from HCMFA -- I'm sorry from HCM, from debtor 17 to HCMFA? 18 MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the 19 question. Asked and answered a million times. It's in 20 the documents you're showing him. 21 THE WITNESS: It was a loan. 22 MR. MORRIS: Come on, Davor. With all due 23 respect, it's in the document. It's on the document. 24 Q. (BY MR. RUKAVINA) I'm being courteous and 25 respectful to you and I'd ask the same in return; okay?

- A. Absolutely. I apologize if I haven't been.
- Q. Mr. Dondero, would you agree, was the only person that had the authority at the debtor to authorize a transfer of 2.4- and then \$5 million?
  - A. At the debtor?
- MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question.
  - Q. (BY MR. RUKAVINA) Yes, at the debtor.
    - A. No.

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- Q. Who else could have transferred 2.4 million or \$5 million?
- A. Those are two different questions. But if you're asking who had the authority, certainly Frank did as well.
- Q. So Frank had the authority. Perhaps my question was inartful.
  - Do you believe that Mr. Waterhouse would have decided to transfer \$2.4 million or \$5 million without Mr. Dondero's approval?
  - MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question.
- THE WITNESS: Generally speaking, no, but I

  don't know exactly what the form of the approval. But

  he certainly wouldn't have done that on his own without

  discussing with Dondero.

into the note on behalf of HCMFA, yes.

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- Q. (BY MR. RUKAVINA) Was that something that he would have done without Mr. Dondero's approval to your understanding and practice at that time?
- MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question.

THE WITNESS: Same answer that I gave before with respect to Highland.

Q. (BY MR. RUKAVINA) So here's where I'm going with all this.

Mr. Dondero's position, and tomorrow his testimony will be, that he caused the \$7.4 million to be transferred not as a loan to HCMFA, but to compensate HCMFA for various things including that NAV error.

Other than perhaps you think he's lying, would you have any knowledge, hearsay, document, anything, to contradict Mr. Dondero's position?

MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question.

THE WITNESS: Yes. I would point to the fact that as it pertains to the \$5 million note, if we're separating issues, there's no other possibility of what that money could be other than either a loan or equity.

It's not compensation. Highland is under --

HCMLP has absolutely zero obligation in respect to that consent fee. So when Highland sends \$5 million to HCMFA there's nothing else that it can be. That's Point 1. Point 2, we're right in the middle of an audit at this point. Jim signs rep letters at this point. He's being provided balance sheets throughout 2019 that indicate the loans that Highland has on its books. Balance sheets are being prepared in respect of annual approvals for 15(c) for retail funds in the Schedules are being created for bankruptcy after we file in October. Nobody says this is a mistake. Frank is on all of these emails. Frank never questions it. There's absolutely no evidence from that point in time to whenever this defense got raised that would indicate that anybody said that these weren't exactly what they say they are. (BY MR. RUKAVINA) Are you aware that in February or March 2019 some \$5.2 million was paid from insurance that HCMFA had to the fund for the NAV error? Α. The amount sounds unfamiliar, but I'm aware that insurance proceeds were paid from HCMFA to the fund.

sane, rational person to conclude that HCMFA had a

And do you think that it's impossible for a

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- Q. (BY MR. RUKAVINA) So you don't know that if you're hit by someone on the street and your medical insurance pays your bills, you don't know that he still has to pay you for the same bills?
- MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question. I hope I don't miss my plane.
- Q. (BY MR. RUKAVINA) You don't know that under Texas law if someone hits you with their car and causes you medical bills and your medical insurance pays those bills, that you can still sue them for the same damages?
- MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question.
  - THE WITNESS: I'm not familiar at any level of specificity with Texas law.
  - Q. (BY MR. RUKAVINA) Again, it just sounds wrong to you that you could go after someone after insurance pays, but you don't know legally one way or the other?
  - A. Correct. I'm not a lawyer or expert in Texas law. It feels wrong, yes.
- Q. Okay. Going back to this email of yours,
  Exhibit 3, do you recall whether there was a similar
  email with respect to the \$5 million note?

Yeah, so nomenclature, procedure, process. I would say the informal process for these

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types of loans, they were frequent in nature, would be for someone on the corporate accounting team to prepare a note and have it executed.

- Q. Okay. That was the standard course back then?
- A. Again, I don't know what standard course means. That was fairly typical.
- Q. Why would you not have asked someone in the Highland legal department to prepare a note?
- A. Because this was a legally reviewed document as far as the form of the agreement. It's a one-page, two-paragraph form that had been used for a long time.

So the only thing that would change with respect to these notes would be the date, the amount, likely the rate. I can't think of anything else offhand that would have changed from note to note.

- Q. After you asked Ms. Hendrix to prepare this note, did you have any further role with respect to the papering, preparation, or execution of that note?
  - A. Not that I can remember.
- Q. Would you have had any role in having either or both of the notes actually signed electronically or by ink by Mr. Waterhouse?
  - A. Likely not, no.
  - Q. Do you know who decided to have

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- Q. On the \$5 million note, do you remember if you had any role with respect to its physical papering or execution?
  - A. Not that I recall.

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- Q. To the best of your memory, your role would have been done by instructing your team, hey, here is these new loans, go paper it up; is that accurate?
- A. On the upfront side. I suppose my role would have also included on the back end making sure that the actual payment had occurred. But that would have been doing that realtime, seeing the funds went out, and that, most importantly, that the consent fee had been paid from HCMFA to the transfer agent.
- Q. How did you or anyone on your team know -- so obviously, you know it's a \$2.4 million loan because that's what Waterhouse or Dondero told you; right?

How did you know it was a \$2.4 million loan?

MR. MORRIS: Objection. Asked and answered.

THE WITNESS: I knew that the NAV error was 2 million, I think it was 398,000, somewhere in that ballpark. And that 2.4- had been authorized for that purpose.

- Q. (BY MR. RUKAVINA) Do you know who decided what the interest rate in this note would be, or that it would be a demand note as opposed to a term note?
- A. I don't specifically know who made that decision. However, the common practice for fund advisors was to put -- was for the rate to equal the, I forget if it was the short-term or long-term AFR.

And for the note to be demand, that was just the standard -- that was the standard.

- Q. And I think I asked this, but just if I didn't.
- For either or both of these two notes, the

  2.4- and \$5 million note, did you have any role with

  respect to Mr. Waterhouse signing them?
  - A. No, not that I can remember. I don't think I did.
  - Q. And you don't remember doing anything to get his signatures?
    - A. Not that I recall.
  - Q. Nor would that have been something that you would expect that you would have a role with?
  - A. Certainly not in this instance. Maybe to the extent that nobody else was around and it was time sensitive, but that wouldn't have been the case with these, I don't believe.

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to them, that there would not be collection sought on

those until May 31 of 2021.

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- Q. Do you remember why that document was done?
- A. My recollection, and it could have been done for other reasons, but my recollection of it was that it was primarily audit-driven.

For the auditors to be comfortable that these notes weren't going to be just called and FA not have the ability to pay them right away.

- Q. Because it's true in April or May of 2019 HCMFA didn't have the ability to pay those notes; correct?
  - A. It didn't have enough cash to pay those.
- Q. And I think you mentioned before that in May 2019 the auditors at the Highland level were talking about rolling up prior demand notes into term notes so the debtor would at least get some regular cash flow; correct?
- MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question.

THE WITNESS: No.

- Q. (BY MR. RUKAVINA) So you recall that -- I'm sorry, that was 2017. I was wrong; right?
  - A. Correct.
- Q. So I guess here is my question, and I'm struggling to understand this.

So why would Highland be loaning an additional \$7.4 million in early May of 2019 to HCMFA when HCMFA already was then unable to repay its debts to Highland? MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question. Yeah, I kind of reject the THE WITNESS: premise of the question, and these are all controlled And it's completely within his power at any point in time to make any payment on any of the loans, depending on where priorities sit. So the idea that HCMFA -- that Highland would be doing a credit analysis on HCMFA, determining that it was unable to make that payment and, therefore, this is a bad note, is a completely foreign, preposterous concept at that time. (BY MR. RUKAVINA) And in May of 2019 isn't it also, sir, the case that Mr. Dondero could have, right or wrong, agree or disagree, said, that 7.4- is going to compensate HCMFA for the NAV error as opposed to being a loan? Α. No. Q. That's not possible? Α. No. And why is that not possible? Q.

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something else, I don't know how he could do that.

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conversation is just off the reservation impossible.

That there's no way -- there's no way -- there's no way that it would have been described that way and there's a hundred percent that it's loan.

- Q. Do you have any memory discussing prior -MR. MORRIS: Objection. Asked and answered.
  He's answered this a thousand times.
- Q. (BY MR. RUKAVINA) Do you have any memory on or before May 2, 2019 discussing the \$2.4 million transfer with Mr. Dondero at all?
- A. I do recall, I don't remember the time, but I do remember discussing the NAV error in general terms and the potential magnitude of that. I don't remember specifically when that occurred.
- Q. At least in your discussion with Mr. Dondero, the \$2.4 million loan or note was somehow linked to the NAV error?
- A. Linked to the NAV error is strong. It related to the NAV error from the standpoint that that's what Highland was loaning HCMFA the money for, because HCMFA couldn't otherwise make the payment itself.
- Q. You just said Highland was loaning the money for. Are you remembering now Mr. Dondero saying that or are you just extrapolating?
  - A. No, I'm explaining rationally what the

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- Q. Do you remember on or before May 3, 2019 discussing the \$5 million transfer with Mr. Dondero?
- A. Again, in general terms. I couldn't tell you a time period, but this was something that, between Frank and I, we had put on Jim's radar that this would be a cash need in the future. I couldn't specify specifically when that happened.
- Q. Okay. You have no present memory of discussing that issue with Mr. Dondero on or before May 3, 2019? It must have happened but you have no memory?
- MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question.
- THE WITNESS: We discussed that there would be a consent fee payable from HCMFA. We would have discussed -- and again, I don't remember where I was, what day it was, the specifics around the conversation.
- But I know that we had conversations pertaining to cash, because this was a large need for -- cash need for HCMFA to satisfy this, and this was an important payment.
- And neither HCMFA nor Highland had the wherewithal to make that payment. The only way that those could make the payment was by Jim Dondero repaying

But every other fact around this tells me that we did have that conversation and that was the conclusion and that was the direction.

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              So it's possible that Mr. Dondero told no one
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   that these were loans but because y'all have been doing
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   it this way for 10 years, that everyone, all of you
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   CPAs, understood that it had to be a loan?
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              MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the
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   question.
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              (BY MR. RUKAVINA) My question is, is that
        Q.
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   possible?
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              I really don't think it's possible.
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   suppose people say anything is possible. Again, two
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   and a half years ago, I'm certain that that was the
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   intent at the time and I'm sure it was communicated as
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   such. I just don't have a specific recollection.
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              MR. RUKAVINA:
                             Thank you.
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              I'll pass the witness.
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              MR. MORRIS: Michael, do you have any
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   questions?
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              MR. AIGEN:
                          I do.
                                 I assume you want me to
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   start now to do my best to be done at 5:00?
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              MR. MORRIS: Yes, please.
21
                          EXAMINATION
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        Q.
              (BY MR. AIGEN) Good afternoon, Mr. Klos.
                                                          My
23
   name is Michael Aigen with the Stinson law firm.
                                                       Ι
24
   represent Mr. Dondero, HCMS, and HCRE.
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              How are you today?
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A. I'm very good, thank you.

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Q. First topic I wanted to ask you about is the defense raised by some of the defendants related to an oral agreement and condition subsequent.

So my question for you generally is, are you aware that some of the defendants in these proceedings have raised a defense that there was a subsequent oral agreement allowing notes to be potentially forgiven if certain events occur?

- A. Yeah, I'm generally aware of the defenses sitting here today.
- Q. And how are you generally aware of this defense?
- A. I don't know with specificity. Potentially through just document flow on the bankruptcy side, potentially with conversations internally or with counsel. But I generally understand them to have been raised, the defenses that is.
- Q. And I don't want to get into conversations with counsel. I'm not allowed to do that.

Let me ask you, have you had any conversations with anyone other than counsel about this subsequent oral agreement defense?

A. I have had general conversations with Mr. Seery about it. And other than that, nothing

substantive.

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- Q. And what did you discuss about this with Mr. Seery?
- A. I've discussed with him, I hate to phrase it this way, the ridiculousness of the defense. Under oath. I've discussed my general understanding of what is being asserted as a defense.

Which is that there was some sort of an oral agreement between Jim and his sister at some point in the past pertaining to forgiveness of certain promissory notes that was conditional upon Highland monetizing any of three PE assets for any amount above cost.

- Q. And is it fair to say that prior to these lawsuits being brought, you weren't aware of any oral agreements related to the promissory notes related to potential forgiveness?
- A. That's correct. Not that I can remember, and
  I think I would remember.
  - Q. And other than your conversations with Mr. Seery and counsel, you haven't had any conversations with anyone else about these alleged oral agreements; is that fair to say?
    - A. I'm not sure I understand the question.
    - Q. You told me you may have had questions with

counsel about these oral agreements defense, and you told me about conversations with Mr. Seery, so I'm trying to close that topic.

Was there anyone else you had any conversations with about this alleged oral agreement?

- A. Like I said before, nothing of substance.

  I've probably mentioned it in passing to other

  employees, this is what I understand is being asserted

  in this, but nothing of substance.
- Q. Do you have any personal knowledge as to whether Mr. Dondero or Ms. Dondero entered into any type of oral agreement prior to the bankruptcy?
- A. No, not other than what's been pled, or whatever the terminology is.
- Q. I want to talk a little bit about, you touched on earlier, you gave some testimony about how in -- there were certain term loans that had payments due in December or on or about December 31, 2020.

Do you remember talking about that?

- A. Yeah, generally.
- Q. And I don't know if you're specifically referring to these loans, but is it also your understanding that HCMS and HCRE also had payments that were due on December 31, 2020?
  - A. Yes.

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# David Klos - October 27, 2021

1	that question. There was a lot to it. If you don't
2	mind.
3	Q. (BY MR. AIGEN) Okay. I'll repeat it. Maybe
4	that will help.
5	MR. MORRIS: Why don't you ask him about his
6	knowledge, instead of Kristin's. You had her as a
7	witness.
8	I'll continue to object. I don't know why
9	you're asking him about her knowledge.
10	MR. AIGEN: Do you want to keep coaching him?
11	MR. MORRIS: No, I'm trying to coach you.
12	MR. AIGEN: Oh, thanks. That's good.
13	Appreciate if you stop coaching your witness.
14	Q. (BY MR. AIGEN) If Ms. Hendrix testified that
15	the instructions she received in December 2020
16	regarding not making any more payments related only to
17	the Advisors and not to HMS or HCRE, would you have any
18	reason to disagree with her?
19	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the
20	question.
21	THE WITNESS: I have no reason to question
22	Kristin's testimony. I'm sure she gave truthful
23	testimony.
24	Q. (BY MR. AIGEN) Are you aware or not of
25	whether Ms. Hendrix was told by Mr. Waterhouse not to

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   make payments from certain entities in December of
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   2020?
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              MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the
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   question.
5
                            Yeah, I'm aware, and I think I
              THE WITNESS:
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   spoke to that earlier of the instruction that had come
   down from Dondero through Frank to Kristin, and I was
   certainly aware of it.
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              And I'm -- and I think I spoke to the fact
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   that, you know, certainly hearing it from a person who,
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   as I said before, wasn't really on the team at that
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   point, it was certainly my understanding that that was a
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   global instruction at the time.
              (BY MR. AIGEN) And I want to get into what
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        Q.
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   was actually said and what you remember, so let me ask
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   you this.
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              This instruction that came down started from
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   Jim and went to Frank. Is that your understanding?
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              That's my understanding.
        A.
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        Q.
              You weren't there during that discussion I
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   assume; is that correct?
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              Correct, I was not.
        Α.
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        0.
              And then Frank gave an instruction to
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   Kristin; is that your recollection?
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              MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the
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1 question. 2 THE WITNESS: Yeah, it's my understanding 3 that Frank informed Kristin of that instruction. 4 (BY MR. AIGEN) Were you there when Frank 0. 5 provided this instruction to Kristin? 6 I don't believe I was. Α. 7 Then can I ask, how did you become aware that Q. Frank had given this instruction to Kristin? 9 Through subsequent conversations with Frank 10 and Kristin. As I said before, I don't recall if it was the three of us or me and Frank or me and Kristin. 11 12 But subsequent conversations. 13 Q. Are we talking about conversations back in 14 2020 or after the bankruptcy? 15 Objection to the form of the MR. MORRIS: 16 question. 17 THE WITNESS: During 2020, December of 2020. 18 Sitting here today, can you (BY MR. AIGEN) 19 say with a hundred percent certainty that the 20 instruction related to all of the entities as opposed 21 to just Advisors? 22 So as you pointed out, I was not party to the 23 direction, so I have no way of knowing with any sort of 24 specificity what the direction actually was. 25 know how it was conveyed to me and how I understood it.

And let's change topics for a second here.

Q.

I want to throw out a term. Are you familiar with the term "NAV ratio trigger period" as it was used in --In a very, very general sense, yes. And in a general sense what does that term mean to you? It's a term I recognize from the limited Α. partnership agreement of HCMLP. It's a defined term in that agreement. To your knowledge, was the NAV ratio trigger period ever reached or triggered prior to the Highland bankruptcy? I don't know the definition, so I don't know based on the definition whether it had or hadn't. Sitting here today, though, it's not your belief, based on your experience, that it was triggered; is that fair to say? MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question. THE WITNESS: I don't know the consequence of being in a trigger period, I guess is what -- how I'm trying to answer your question. 0. (BY MR. AIGEN) Have you ever had any conversations with Nancy Dondero?

Yes.

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1 Q. Generally, how many and what was the 2 reasoning? 3 Α. Probably less than five. I think maybe only one or two that I can really remember. 4 5 At a high level what were those conversations 6 about? 7 From my recollection of my conversations with Α. her, they pertained to the DRIP, which is a dividend 9 reinvestment program that I helped. 10 And approximately when were these 11 conversations? 12 I don't know. Sometime between 2017 and 13 probably 2019. I couldn't tell you with any 14 specificity. These were very informal. 15 Fair to say that you've never had any 16 conversations with Nancy Dondero about any of the loans 17 at issue in this case? 18 No, no, no, I've never had a conversation 19 with her like that. 20 And fair to say that you've never had any 21 conversations with Nancy Dondero about compensation for 22 Jim or any other officers at Highland? 23 Α. Correct. 24 MR. AIGEN: Why don't we go off the record 25 for two minutes. I think I'm either done or about

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1 done. 2 (Off the record.) 3 (BY MR. AIGEN) You understand you're still Q. 4 under oath? 5 Α. Yes. 6 Are you aware of any loans that Highland has 7 made to any employees or officers that were forgiven in all or in part? 9 Α. Yes. 10 Can you tell me who? Q. 11 I don't know that this will be a complete 12 list, but there were a few employees in the kind of 13 late aughts, maybe 2010, 2011 frame. 14 Do you know the names? Q. 15 One was Jack Yang. Another, I'm not sure if Α. 16 it was forgiven or not, that's why I'm hesitating, but 17 it was Tim Lawler. I think his was forgiven in part or 18 in full, but I'm not a hundred percent certain. 19 And any other individuals that received loans 20 that were forgiven in part that you're aware of? 21 Α. Not that I recall, but there could be others. 22 Some of this is very, very old. 23 Ο. Changing topics here a little bit, I'm going 24 to combine two entities to try to speed this up. you need to separate, that's fine. 25

Can you just generally explain to me what services Highland Capital Management provided for HCMS and HCRE?

A. For HCMS -- I do need to separate these a little bit. For HCMS, really full-service accounting, tax, treasury, cash payments. I said tax. Valuation. Nothing personnel-wise because they didn't have any employees.

That's all I can think of right off the top of my head, but I could be missing some.

- Q. And what about HCRE? How is that different?
- A. Similar, except different types of assets.

  So more real estate, so less heavy.

Maybe not necessarily differences in terms of the types of services, but services would have, I'd say, more cash activity, more variety of investments, which triggers different types of activities going on at those entities.

But similar in terms of tax operations, making payments. HCRE didn't have employees, so no payroll. So these would be the broad areas that I would think about.

Q. And you mentioned making payments. Would one of those services that Highland provided for these two entities include making loan payments on the term loans

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### David Klos - October 27, 2021

1 like the term loans at issue in these proceedings? 2 MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the 3 question. 4 THE WITNESS: I think I mentioned before, I 5 couldn't remember whether or not Kristin was authorized 6 to make payments with respect to HCRE. I think she probably was, but I don't know that with certainty. 8 But, you know, for services, certainly Kristin 9 and her team would be responsible for making those 10 payments, subject to the proper authorization. 11 (BY MR. AIGEN) And I'm sorry if I asked this 12 If it wasn't Kristin for HCRE, do you have an 13 idea who it would have been? 14 Α. If not Kristin, it would have been Melissa 15 Schroth. 16 And how were those responsibilities split up? 17 What entities was Melissa Schroth responsible for? 18 Generally speaking, Melissa was more 19 responsible for entities that were really, like -- I'm 20 going to use this in the most general sense, like Jim 21 entities, Jim's trusts, Jim personally. 22 And for HCRE it was kind of in the middle. When it started out it kind of was more Jim world and 23 24 then over time it got more complex. 25 And as entities got more complex over time

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1 they tend to get transitioned from Melissa to corporate 2 accounting. And when they got really complex over to 3 another group of fund accountants. 4 So this is one that was, at its beginning, 5 Melissa was the, called primary accountant. And at 6 some point in time that transitioned to the corporate accounting team. I can't remember when the cash process kind of cut over. 9 Is there a list somewhere saying Melissa is 10 responsible for these, Kristin for the others, or is it 11 just more of a pattern or matter of practice? 12 More of a matter of practice. If you're 13 responsible for an entity, you're responsible. 14 you're not, then you're not. 15 MR. AIGEN: That's all the questions I have. 16 Thank you for your time. 17 THE WITNESS: Thank you. 18 **EXAMINATION** 19 (BY MR. MORRIS) Just a few, Mr. Klos. Ο. Let's 20 pick up where Mr. Aigen left off. 21 To the best of your knowledge, did HCMS have 22 a shared services agreement with Highland? 23 No, it didn't that I'm aware of. Α. 24 But you described certain services that HCMLP 25 provided to HCMS; is that right?

1 Α. Yes. 2 Do you know whether HCMFA ever compensated --3 do you know whether HCMS ever compensated HCMLP for any 4 of those services that HCMLP provided? 5 Α. No, it didn't. 6 You mentioned HCRE. 0. To the best of your 7 knowledge, did HCRE have a shared services agreement with Highland Capital Management, LP? 9 No, it didn't. 10 Did HCRE provide the services that --Q. 11 withdrawn. 12 Did HCMLP provide the services to HCRE that 13 you just described? 14 Α. Yes. 15 Did HCRE ever compensate HCMLP for any of the 16 services that HCMLP provided? 17 Α. No. 18 Okay. Mr. Rukavina asked you some questions 19 about payments that were made on the NexPoint loan in 20 the first half of 2019. 21 Do you remember that? 22 Yes, generally. A. 23 0. Notwithstanding those payments, did 24 your group continue to carry on its books and records

NexPoint's obligation to make the installment payment

1 that was due at the end of the year? 2 Yes, we continued to track it through our 3 interest schedules and through cash. 4 So in the debtor's books and records is there 5 any evidence that the payments that were made in early 6 2019 were intended to relieve NexPoint's obligation to make the installment payment due at the end of the 8 year? 9 MR. RUKAVINA: Objection. Best evidence. No, I don't believe so. 10 THE WITNESS: 11 (BY MR. MORRIS) Did you have a conversation Q. 12 with anybody at any time in the year 2019 about whether 13 the payments made earlier in the year on behalf of 14 NexPoint would eliminate or suspend its obligation --15 withdrawn. 16 Did you have any conversation with anybody --17 I think I screwed up the dates. Going to have to start 18 over. 19 Let me ask better questions. 20 You looked with Mr. Rukavina at certain 21 payments that were made in early 2019 with respect to 22 the NexPoint note. 23 Do I have that right? 24 Α. Yes. 25 Notwithstanding those payments, did NexPoint Q.

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   make the installment payment that was due at the end of
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   2019?
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             MR. RUKAVINA: Objection. Calls for a legal
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   conclusion.
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              THE WITNESS: It did make the payment that
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   was due at the end of 2019.
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              (BY MR. MORRIS) And the payment that it made
        0.
   at the end of 2019, was that the annual installment
9
   payment that was called for in the note itself?
              MR. RUKAVINA: Objection. Legal conclusion.
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              THE WITNESS: Yes, it was a payment pursuant
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   to the note.
13
        Q.
              (BY MR. MORRIS) Did anybody ever tell you at
14
   any time prior to the commencement of this lawsuit that
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   any prior payment by or on behalf of NexPoint relieved
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   it of any obligation to pay the installment payment due
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   at the end of 2020?
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        Α.
             No.
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             And did in fact -- is it your understanding
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   that Mr. Dondero specifically authorized Highland to
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   effectuate a payment on NexPoint's behalf in mid
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   January 2021?
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              I don't have specific knowledge, but I know
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   that to have occurred.
25
             Okay. Did anybody ever tell you in 2021 --
        Q.
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1 withdrawn. 2 Did anybody tell you in December 2020 or 3 December -- or January 2021 that NexPoint didn't have 4 to make the installment payment at year end 2020 5 because of some prior prepayment? 6 Α. No. 7 Can you think of any reason -- withdrawn. Q. 8 Did you ever hear Mr. Dondero -- withdrawn. 9 Did you ever see anything in writing where 10 NexPoint ever contended, prior to February 1, 2021, 11 that it had no obligation to make the payment due at 12 the end of 2020 because of some prepayment issue? 13 Α. No, not that I remember. 14 Can you think of any reason why Mr. Dondero Q. 15 would have authorized a payment by NexPoint to HCMLP on 16 account of the note in January of 2021 if he actually 17 believed at that time that no obligation was due 18 because of a prior prepayment? 19 MR. RUKAVINA: Objection. Speculation, lacks 20 foundation. 21 THE WITNESS: No. 22 (BY MR. MORRIS) Does it make any sense to Q. 23 you as an accountant that you would pay a seven-figure

sum of money that you didn't think was due and owing?

No, that does not make sense to me.

24

1 Q. Can you get Exhibit 13, please. 2 Got it. Α. 3 You were asked some questions about Q. 4 paragraph 3. 5 Do you see that? 6 Α. Yes. 7 Does paragraph 3 mention annual installment 8 payments at all? 9 No, I'm not seeing it. 10 Does paragraph 3 state in any way that a 11 prepayment as described in that paragraph would relieve 12 the maker of the obligation to make annual installment 13 payments? 14 Α. No. 15 Can you turn to the next page and look at 16 paragraph 5. 17 Are you familiar with that paragraph at all? 18 I mean, I've seen it before, but this 19 is, as I said before, this is a provision that probably 20 would have been in most, if not all, of these types of 21 notes. 22 Can you get Exhibit 3, please. This is your 23 email dated May 2, 2019. 24 Do I have that right? 25 Α. Yes.

Mr. Waterhouse didn't get this?

25

1 Α. No, he got this. 2 And did Mr. Waterhouse tell you at any time 3 in the history of the world that this \$2.4 million 4 should not have been booked as a loan? 5 Α. No. 6 Did Mr. Dondero tell you at any moment in the 7 history of the world that this transaction should not have been booked as a loan? 9 Α. No. 10 Ο. You mentioned that there was an audit that 11 followed shortly thereafter? 12 Α. Yes. 13 Are you familiar with the debtor's audited Q. 14 financial statements for the period ending 2018? 15 Yes, generally. Not total recall, but yes. Α. 16 Are you aware that this loan was included as 17 a subsequent event in the debtor's audited financial 18 statements? 19 Α. Yes. 20 MR. RUKAVINA: Objection. Best evidence. 21 0. (BY MR. MORRIS) Did Mr. Dondero or 22 Mr. Waterhouse or anybody ever tell you that the debtor 23 should not have included this \$2.4 million loan in its 24 audited financial statements? 25 MR. RUKAVINA: Objection. Best evidence.

1 THE WITNESS: No. 2 (BY MR. MORRIS) Okay. And the next day 3 there was another loan; right? 4 Yes. Α. 5 I'm going to show you here a document that's 6 been produced. 7 MR. RUKAVINA: Would you email it to me and I 8 can print it out for the court reporter. 9 MR. MORRIS: You want to come over here and 10 look --11 MR. RUKAVINA: I know it. I'm just thinking 12 that we can append it to the record right now. 13 MR. MORRIS: It's eight pages, so it's part 14 of a whole production. 15 But it's just one email? MR. RUKAVINA: 16 MR. MORRIS: Just one email that I'm talking 17 about. So we're looking at Bates stamp D-CNL003763. 18 And I'll email it to you when we're done here. 19 And you're welcome to come over here if you'd like to 20 see it. 21 0. (BY MR. MORRIS) Mr. Klos, can you take a 22 look at the email that I have on my screen. 23 Α. Yes. 24 And do you see that it's an email from 25 Kristin Hendrix to the corporate accounting group on

1 Friday, May 3? 2 Α. Yes. 3 And were you also included in the corporate Q. 4 accounting email string? 5 Α. Yes. 6 Can you read the email out loud, please. 7 It says, Blair, please set up a wire from Α. 8 HCMLP to HCMFA for 5 million as a new loan, 9 parentheses, 4.4 million should be coming in from Jim 10 Hayley, please add this to your loan tracker. Ι 11 will paper the loan. 12 So based on that email, did you understand on 0. 13 May 3 that HCMLP was going to loan \$5 million to HCMFA? 14 Α. Yes, HCMFA. 15 And did you understand that Kristin 16 specifically told the corporate accounting group that 17 she would take responsibility for papering the loan? 18 Yes, that's what she says. 19 Do you recall whether Mr. Waterhouse ever Ο. 20 objected to any aspect of Kristin's email? He didn't. 21 Α. 22 Do you recall in the history of the world 23 whether Mr. Waterhouse ever told you that this 24 \$5 million transaction should not have been booked as a

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loan?

1 Α. No. 2 Did anybody in the history of the world ever 3 raise a question to you as to whether or not Kristin 4 was authorized to paper the loan, as she describes it 5 in this particular email? 6 Α. No. 7 Do you know if this \$5 million loan was also included in the debtor's audited financial statements? 8 9 MR. RUKAVINA: Objection. Best evidence. 10 THE WITNESS: Yes. Again, subsequent event. 11 (BY MR. MORRIS) Okay. And did anybody in 12 the history of the world ever tell you that Highland 13 should not have included as a subsequent event in its 14 2018 audited financial statement this \$5 million loan? 15 Α. No. 16 MR. RUKAVINA: Objection. Best evidence. 17 THE WITNESS: No. 18 (BY MR. MORRIS) Do you know if HCMFA had its 0. 19 financial statements audited? 20 Α. It did. 21 And are you generally familiar with those 22 financial statements? 23 Α. Yes. 24 Are you aware that these two loans totaling 25 \$7.4 million were included in HCMFA's audited financial

1 statements as a subsequent event for the period ended 2 December 31, 2018? 3 Α. Yes. 4 MR. RUKAVINA: Objection. Best evidence. 5 (BY MR. MORRIS) Did anybody in the history Ο. 6 of the world ever tell you that HCMFA should not have 7 included as a subsequent event the borrowing of the money reflected in these loans? 9 MR. RUKAVINA: Objection. Best evidence. 10 THE WITNESS: No, no one said that. 11 (BY MR. MORRIS) Do you know if HCMFA 12 included these loans as a liability on its balance 13 sheet? 14 Α. It did. 15 MR. RUKAVINA: Objection. Move to strike. 16 Best evidence. 17 (BY MR. MORRIS) Did anyone in the history of 18 the world ever tell you that HCMFA should not have 19 included these loans as a liability on its balance 20 sheet? 21 MR. RUKAVINA: Objection. Best evidence. 22 THE WITNESS: No. 23 0. (BY MR. MORRIS) Okay. Do you recall that in 24 October of 2020 HCMFA and NexPoint made a report to the 25 retail board?

and owing to HCMLP and affiliates?

- Q. And are you aware as to whether or not the financials that were provided to the retail board included, among other things, the \$7.4 million in notes that were -- that we're talking about here?
- A. Yes, those financials would have included those amounts as liabilities to HCMLP.
- Q. Did Mr. Dondero or Mr. Waterhouse ever tell you or anybody to your knowledge that the Advisors should not have told the retail boards that they were obligated to pay under those two notes?
  - A. No.

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- Q. Let's talk about loan forgiveness for a moment.
  - How long have you been with the company?
  - A. March of 2009.
- Q. At any time since you've been employed by Highland, has Highland ever forgiven a promissory note that it held where the maker was a corporate affiliate?
  - A. Not that I can recall.
- Q. Have you ever heard prior -- has anybody ever told you that before you joined the company, Highland had ever forgiven in whole or in part any note that it held where the maker was a corporate affiliate?

# David Klos - October 27, 2021

1	A. Not that I'm aware of.
2	Q. You referred to a couple of loans that were
3	given to individuals earlier.
4	Do you remember that?
5	A. Yes.
6	Q. What's the biggest loan that you can recall
7	Highland ever forgiving?
8	A. The largest one that I can remember was
9	a half-million dollars, 500,000.
10	Q. So you have no knowledge of any loan ever
11	being forgiven where the principal amount forgiven
12	exceeded \$500,000; is that right?
13	A. Not that I'm aware of.
14	Q. And when is the last loan that Highland
15	forgave in whole or in part to one of its officers or
16	employees that you can recall?
17	A. I don't know a specific year, but it would
18	have been in the 2010, 2011 time frame. Maybe 2012,
19	but I suspect '10 or '11.
20	Q. So is it fair to say to the best of your
21	recollection and knowledge that Highland did not
22	forgive a single loan made to an officer or employee
23	for at least seven years prior to the petition date?
24	A. There's none that I can think of.

Let's just turn our attention to

Q.

# David Klos - October 27, 2021

1	December 2020.
2	Do you recall that you testified at length
3	about your understanding of the conversations with
4	Mr. Waterhouse and Ms. Hendrix?
5	Do you remember that?
6	A. Yes.
7	Q. Okay. Are you aware of any instruction ever
8	made by Mr. Dondero or Mr. Waterhouse in November or
9	December 2020 in order to make the payments that were
10	due under the three term notes withdrawn.
11	There were three term notes that were due
12	withdrawn.
13	There are three term notes at issue in this
14	case. Do you understand that?
15	A. Yeah, that's my understanding.
16	Q. And one of them was issued by NexBank; is
17	that right?
18	A. NexPoint Advisors.
19	Q. Thank you for the clarification.
20	One was by HCRE?
21	A. Correct.
22	Q. And one was from HCMS; do I have that right?
23	A. Yes.
24	Q. And all three of those notes were executed as
25	of May 31, 2017; right?

1 Yeah, that was the effective date on all Α. 2 three. 3 And they all rolled up previously outstanding 4 notes that were due and payable to Highland. 5 Do I have that right? 6 To the best of my recollection. Α. Correct. 7 So we'll refer to those notes as the term 8 Is that okay? notes. 9 Α. Sure. 10 Do you have any knowledge that Mr. Dondero or Mr. Waterhouse ever instructed HCMLP to make the 11 12 installment payments that were due at the end of 2020 13 with respect to any of those term notes? 14 Α. No, I don't believe they provided that 15 instruction to make those payments. 16 MR. RUKAVINA: Objection. Move to strike. 17 Lacks foundation. 18 I'm asking him if he ever heard. MR. MORRIS: 19 MR. RUKAVINA: But he answered a different 20 question. He answered a different question. 21 0. (BY MR. MORRIS) Did you ever see anything in 22 writing where either Mr. Dondero or Mr. Waterhouse 23 directed HCMLP to make the annual installment payments 24 that were due at the end of 2020 with respect to any of 25 the term notes?

1 Α. No. 2 Okay. But to the best of your recollection, 3 in the 13-week forecast, those forecasts included the 4 installment payments that were due at the end of the 5 year; is that right? 6 They did. Α. 7 Did anybody ever tell you prior to Q. 8 February 1, 2021, that your group had made a mistake by 9 not making the payment -- any of the payments that were 10 due under the term notes at the end of 2020? 11 Not that I'm aware of. 12 0. Did anybody tell you prior to February 1, 13 2021, that the makers of the term notes expected 14 Highland to effectuate the payments that were due at 15 the end of the year without approval by Mr. Waterhouse 16 or Mr. Dondero? 17 Α. No. 18 Have you seen any protest in writing prior to 19 the commencement of the litigation by any of the makers 20 of the notes about a failure on the part of HCMLP to 21 perform its duties and make that payment at the end of 22 the year? 23 Α. No.

I have no further questions.

I have five minutes.

MR. MORRIS:

MR. RUKAVINA:

24

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1 agreement between HCMLP and HCMFA the earliest they 2 could demand is May 2021. 3 Did you ever write to him and say that too 4 was a mistake? 5 Α. I didn't write to him. 6 Did you realize back then when you read it 7 that he had made a mistake? 8 Α. I'm not certain. 9 Did you -- and I'm not suggesting that you 10 should have. You're a busy man. But did you attach 11 any significance outside of the ordinary to this email 12 exchange? 13 MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question. 14 15 THE WITNESS: I struggle with how to answer 16 that. I saw that this note was in response to retail 17 15(c) follow-up on the Advisors. 18 At this point my role was different, where I 19 was dealing with really the retail funds primarily. 20 the fact that I'm even on this email is somewhat 21 incidental. 22 (BY MR. RUKAVINA) But surely on October 6, Q. 23 2020 you knew that there were four HCMFA demand notes, 24 didn't you? 25 I'm sure I would have had access to that

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that's to the effect that a prepayment will not relieve

I don't see that specific provision.

the maker of any regularly scheduled payment?

1 read it for what is on the page. 2 Isn't it, sir, in your experience the case 3 that a promissory note, if it intended not to relieve 4 the borrower of regularly scheduled payments would say 5 that a prepayment does not relieve the borrower of 6 regularly scheduled payments? 7 MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the 8 question. 9 That's a legal question. THE WITNESS: Ι 10 can't -- I don't know the answer. 11 (BY MR. RUKAVINA) Do you remember seeing 12 promissory notes that say something like that? 13 Not that I can recall. Α. 14 You'd be surprised if that's what promissory 15 notes say? 16 MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the 17 question. 18 I don't know. THE WITNESS: 19 (BY MR. RUKAVINA) And Mr. Morris asked you 20 about this. I'm trying to burn through this so the man 21 can make his plane. 22 Section 2.1 talks about 30 equal annual 23 payments, annual installments. 24 You see that? 25 Yes, I see that. Α.

1	Q. And Mr. Morris asked you whether you see
2	anything in here that says that a prepayment relieves
3	an annual installment.
4	Do you remember that question?
5	MR. MORRIS: Objection. That's not what I
6	asked.
7	THE WITNESS: I don't remember that question.
8	Q. (BY MR. RUKAVINA) Reading Section 2.1 and 3
9	together, what would a prepayment apply to other than
10	an annual installment? Do you have a view on that?
11	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the
12	question.
13	THE WITNESS: Again, I struggle with
14	prepayment. But as I read Section 3, it would be
15	applied first to unpaid accrued interest and then to
16	unpaid principal.
17	Q. (BY MR. RUKAVINA) Have you ever in your
18	personal life prepaid a promissory note before have
19	you ever in your personal life prepaid a promissory
20	note prior to its maturity?
21	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the
22	question.
23	THE WITNESS: I don't know.
24	Q. (BY MR. RUKAVINA) Sitting here today, with
25	your CPA, your MBA and you're a CFO of a large entity,

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1
   you don't understand what a prepayment means?
2
                           Objection. Argumentative.
              MR. MORRIS:
3
              I direct you not to answer.
4
              You're going to have ask a different question.
5
   That's an argumentative question and it's insulting.
6
              MR. RUKAVINA:
                             What's the privilege on which
7
   you're directing him not to answer?
8
              MR. MORRIS:
                           I just said it's argumentative.
9
              MR. RUKAVINA:
                             I'm trying to let you get to
10
   your flight.
11
              MR. MORRIS: Ask a proper question. Don't
   make this about me.
12
13
        0.
              (BY MR. RUKAVINA) You were going to answer
14
   my question, sir?
15
              MR. MORRIS: No, I'm directing him not to
16
   answer.
17
             MR. RUKAVINA:
                             Then we'll end this deposition
18
   with a motion to compel.
19
              MR. MORRIS: Okay.
                                  You do that.
20
              MR. RUKAVINA:
                             I'm making a motion to compel.
21
   We'll call the judge as soon as we land in New York
22
   tomorrow.
23
              MR. MORRIS: You have to read the whole
24
   question. You can ask the question without the
25
   verbiage; right?
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1
             MR. RUKAVINA: And I asked you on the basis
2
   of what privilege are you instructing your --
3
              MR. MORRIS:
                           Argumentative.
4
              MR. RUKAVINA:
                             That's not a privilege.
5
              MR. MORRIS: Sir, you can rephrase your
6
   question and end this right now by not being insulting
7
   to my client.
8
              (BY MR. RUKAVINA) I was not trying to be
9
   insulting, sir.
10
              I'm asking you again, you do not, sitting
11
   here today, have an understanding of what the word
12
   "prepayment" for a promissory note means?
13
             MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the
14
   question.
15
              You can answer that one.
16
              THE WITNESS: In the context that you're
17
   asking the question --
18
              (BY MR. RUKAVINA) No, I'm not asking any
19
              Sitting here today, do you have an
20
   understanding of what the word "prepayment" means when
21
   it comes to a borrower/lender relationship?
22
             MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the
23
   question.
24
              THE WITNESS: Yes, I have a general
25
   understanding.
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1
   payment made prior to the time that it's due?
2
             MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the
3
   question.
4
             THE WITNESS: Yes, in the most general sense
5
   a prepayment, the prefix "pre" indicates that it's
6
   before some other event. So from that standpoint,
7
   prepayment means it was to some extent paid early.
8
             MR. RUKAVINA: Thank you.
9
             Pass the witness.
10
             MR. MORRIS: No further questions.
11
             Michael?
12
             MR. AIGEN: No questions.
13
             THE REPORTER: Mr. Morris, do you want a copy
14
   of the transcript?
15
             MR. MORRIS: I sure do.
16
             THE REPORTER: Mr. Aigen, do you want a copy
17
   of the transcript?
18
             MR. AIGEN:
                          Yes, we would also like a copy.
19
             MR. MORRIS: Yeah, and I'd like that rush.
20
              (Whereupon, the deposition adjourned at
21
             5:14 P.M.)
22
                            --000--
23
             I declare under penalty of perjury that the
24
   foregoing is true and correct. Subscribed at
25
                          , Texas, this day
                                                       of
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135

1	, 2021.
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6	DAVID KLOS
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## CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER

I, BRANDON D. COMBS, a Certified Shorthand
Reporter, hereby certify that the witness in the
foregoing deposition was by me duly sworn to tell the
truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth in the
within-entitled cause;

That said deposition was taken in shorthand by me, a disinterested person, at the time and place therein stated, and that the testimony of the said witness was thereafter reduced to typewriting, by computer, under my direction and supervision;

That before completion of the deposition, review of the transcript was not requested. If requested, any changes made by the deponent (and provided to the reporter) during the period allowed are appended hereto.

I further certify that I am not of counsel or attorney for either or any of the parties to the said deposition, nor in any way interested in the event of this cause, and that I am not related to any of the parties thereto.

DATED: November 1, 2021

Brandon Combs, Certified Shorthand Reporter No. 10927 in and afor the

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# IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS DALLAS DIVISION

In re	§	
HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT,	§ §	Chapter 11
L.P.,	§ §	Case No. 19-34054-sgj11
Debtor.	§	
	§	
HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT,	§	
L.P.,	§	
	§	
Plaintiff,	§	
	§	Adv. No. 21-03004
V.	§	Auv. 110. 21-03004
	§	
HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT	§	
FUND ADVISORS, L.P.	§	
	§	
Defendant.	§	
	-	

#### **DECLARATION OF DAVOR RUKAVINA**

The undersigned, Davor Rukavina, hereby declares under penalty of perjury pursuant to the laws of the United States of America the following:

- 1. My name is Davor Rukavina. I am over the age of 21, have never been convicted of a felony or crime of moral turpitude, and am otherwise qualified to give this Declaration.
- 2. I am an attorney duly licensed to practice law in the State of Texas. I am lead counsel for Highland Capital Management Fund Advisors, L.P. ("<u>HCMFA</u>"), in the above styled and numbered Adversary Proceeding.
- 3. Attached hereto as Exhibit "A" is a true and correct copy of the *Defendant's Second*Set of Requests for Production to Plaintiff, served by HCMFA on May 28, 2021.

- 4. Attached hereto as Exhibit "B" is a true and correct copy of the *Debtor's Responses* and *Objections to Defendant's Second Set of Requests for Production*, served by Highland Capital Management, L.P. (the "Plaintiff"), on June 28, 2021.
- 5. The first time that the Plaintiff produced the promissory notes the subject of this Adversary Proceeding, in their native Word format, was on October 26, 2021.
- 6. I caused two of my employees, Julian Vasek and An Nguyen, both associates at Munsch Hardt under my direct supervision, to review the Plaintiff's production in this Adversary Proceeding for any e-mail from Mr. Frank Waterhouse to Ms. Kristin Hendrix authorizing her to affix his electronic signature to the promissory notes the subject of this Adversary Proceeding. After they originally found no such e-mail, I instructed them to search the production again just to be certain. Again, they reported to me that, after searching again, they found no such e-mail. I then personally reviewed all e-mails in said production from Mr. Waterhouse to anyone in April and May, 2019, and I found no such e-mail. Accordingly, I conclude that the Plaintiff's production to HCMFA in this Adversary Proceeding does not contain any e-mail by which Mr. Waterhouse authorized Ms. Hendrix to affix his electronic signature to said notes.
- 7. Included in the *Defendant's Appendix in Support of Second Motion for Leave to Amend Answer* at HCMFA APP 53-449 is a true and correct copy of a deposition of Frank Waterhouse, without exhibits, taken in this Adversary Proceeding on October 19, 2021.
- 8. Included in the *Defendant's Appendix in Support of Second Motion for Leave to Amend Answer* at HCMFA APP 450-653 is a true and correct copy of a deposition of Kristin Hendrix, with exhibits, taken in this Adversary Proceeding on October 27, 2021.
- 9. Included in the *Defendant's Appendix in Support of Second Motion for Leave to Amend Answer* at HCMFA APP 654-813 is a true and correct copy of a deposition of David Klos, taken in this Adversary Proceeding on October 27, 2021.

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10.	I hereby swear under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct to the
best of my l	knowledge and ability.

Executed: November 30, 2021.

/s/ Davor Rukavian
DAVOR RUKAVINA

# IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS DALLAS DIVISION

In re	§
HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P.,	<ul> <li>\$ Chapter 11</li> <li>\$ Case No. 19-34054-sgj11</li> </ul>
Debtor.	§
HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P.,	§ § §
Plaintiff,	§ § Adv. No. 21-03004
V.	8 Adv. No. 21-03004
HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT FUND ADVISORS, L.P.	§ § § 8
Defendant.	§

#### DEFENDANT'S SECOND SET OF REQUESTS FOR PRODUCTION TO PLAINTIFF

To: Highland Capital Management, L.P., by and through its counsel of record, John Morris, Esq., Pachulski Stang Ziehl & Jones LLP, 10100 Santa Monica Blvd., 13th Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90067

Pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 34, as made applicable to this proceeding by Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 7034, defendant Highland Capital Management Fund Advisors, L.P. hereby serves upon plaintiff Highland Capital Management, L.P. this its *Second Set of Requests for Production to Plaintiff* (the "Requests"). Responses to the Requests must be served on or before **June 28, 2021**, on the following:

Munsch Hardt Kopf & Harr, P.C. Attn: Davor Rukavina 3800 Ross Tower 500 N. Akard St. Dallas, Texas 75201

EXHIBIT "A"

Pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 34(b)(1)(C), made applicable to this adversary proceeding by Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 7034, electronically stored information should be produced in native format.

#### I. **DEFINITIONS**

In responding to these Requests, you are instructed to use the following definitions:

"Communication(s)" means the transmittal of information (in the form of facts, ideas, inquiries, or otherwise) by any means, including but not limited to any meeting, conversation, discussion, conference, correspondence, message, or other written or oral transmission, exchange, or transfer of information in any form between two or more persons, including in person or by telephone, facsimile, telegraph, telex, electronic mail or other medium. The term also includes any Document transmitted or exchanged during such transmittal of information.

"Complaint" means the Complaint for (i) Breach of Contract and (ii) Turnover of Property of the Debtor's Estate, filed by the Debtor in this Adversary Proceeding.

"<u>Debtor</u>" means Highland Capital Management, L.P. and includes all agents and representatives thereof.

"Document" means all handwritten, typed, or printed matter of any kind, including the originals and all non-identical copies, whether different from the original by reason of any notation made on such copies or otherwise, including, without limitation, agreements, correspondence, forecasts, memoranda, e-mails, notes, jottings, speeches, press releases, diaries, examinations, statistics, letters, telegrams, minutes, time records, payroll records, expense records, contracts, reports, studies, training manuals, canceled checks, statements, receipts, delivery tickets, returns, summaries, work orders, pamphlets, books, prospectuses, statement of operations, inter-office and intra-office communications, internal and external audit reports, internal and external accounting reports, offers, notations of any sort of conversations, telephone calls, meetings, or other communications, bulletins, printed matter, computer print-outs, teletypes, invoices, worksheets, and all drafts, alterations, modifications, changes and amendments of any of the foregoing, graphic or aural records of representations of any kind, including, without limitation, photographs, charts, graphs, microfiche, microfilm, videotape, recordings, motion pictures, and electronic, mechanical or electronic records or representations of any kind, including, without limitation, emails, tapes, cassettes, digital images, digital videos, videotapes, audiotapes, laser disks, disks (including CD-ROM disks), plans or other representations of anything concerning, describing, referring or relating, directly or indirectly, in whole or in part, to the subject matter of the discovery request at issue.

"HCMFA" means Highland Capital Management Fund Advisors, L.P. and includes all agents and representatives thereof.

"NAV Error" means the NAV error in the Highland Global Allocation Fund referred to in that certain April 7, 2019 memo from HCMFA to the Securities and Exchange Commission that was provided to John Morris by Davor Rukavina attached to an email dated May 24, 2021.

"Notes" means those certain alleged promissory notes attached as Exhibits 1 and 2 to the Complaint.

"Related" or "related to" means, without limitation, the following: effect, concern, refer to, reflect, evidence, display, contain, show, prove, encompass, support, demonstrate, involve, and/or include, in any way legally, logically, or factually connected to the matter referred to, or have a tendency to prove or disprove the matter referred to.

### II. REQUESTS FOR PRODUCTION

#### **REQUEST NO. 8**

The Debtor's compliance manual.

**RESPONSE:** 

#### **REQUEST NO. 9**

All Microsoft Word copies of the Notes, including metadata.

**RESPONSE:** 

## **REQUEST NO. 10**

All email communications related to preparation of the Notes.

**RESPONSE:** 

#### **REQUEST NO. 11**

All email communications with external auditors related to the Notes.

**RESPONSE:** 

#### **REQUEST NO. 12**

All email communications related to the NAV Error.

**RESPONSE:** 

# **REQUEST NO. 13**

All email communications related to any insurance claim related to the NAV Error.

**RESPONSE:** 

#### **REQUEST NO. 14**

All email communications related to the payment obligations of HCMFA to Highland Global Allocation Fund for the NAV Error.

#### **RESPONSE:**

Dated at Dallas, Texas this 28th day of May, 2021.

## MUNSCH HARDT KOPF & HARR, P.C.

#### By: /s/ Davor Rukavina

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Julian P. Vasek, Esq.
Texas Bar No. 24070790
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500 N. Akard Street
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Email: drukavina@munsch.com

COUNSEL FOR HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT FUND ADVISORS, L.P.

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# **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

The undersigned hereby certifies that, on this the 28th day of May, 2021, he caused a true and correct copy of this document to be served by e-mail on John Morris, Esq., counsel of record for the Debtor/Plaintiff.

/s/ Davor Rukavina	
Davor Rukavina	

PACHULSKI STANG ZIEHL & JONES LLP

Jeffrey N. Pomerantz (CA Bar No. 143717) (admitted pro hac vice) Ira D. Kharasch (CA Bar No. 109084) (admitted pro hac vice) John A. Morris (NY Bar No. 266326) (admitted pro hac vice) Gregory V. Demo (NY Bar No. 5371992) (admitted pro hac vice) Hayley R. Winograd (NY Bar No. 5612569) (admitted pro hac vice) 10100 Santa Monica Blvd., 13th Floor Los Angeles, CA 90067

Telephone: (310) 277-6910 Facsimile: (310) 201-0760

HAYWARD PLLC Melissa S. Hayward Texas Bar No. 24044908 MHayward@HaywardFirm.com Zachery Z. Annable Texas Bar No. 24053075 ZAnnable@HaywardFirm.com 10501 N. Central Expy, Ste. 106 Dallas, Texas 75231

Tel: (972) 755-7100 Fax: (972) 755-7110

Counsel for the Debtor and Debtor-in-Possession

# IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS DALLAS DIVISION

In re:	§ Chapter 11
HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P.,1	§ Case No. 19-34054-sgj11
Debtor.	§ §
HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P.,	§ 8
Plaintiff,	§ Adv. Proc. No. 21-03004
V.	\$ \$
HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT FUND ADVISORS, L.P.,	§ §
Defendant.	8

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The Debtor's last four digits of its taxpayer identification number are (6725). The headquarters and service address for the above-captioned Debtor is 300 Crescent Court, Suite 700, Dallas, TX 75201.



# DEBTOR'S RESPONSES AND OBJECTIONS TO DEFENDANT'S SECOND SET OF REQUESTS FOR PRODUCTION

Highland Capital Management, L.P., ("<u>Plaintiff</u>" or the "<u>Debtor</u>") hereby responds to *Defendant's Second Set of Requests for Production to Plaintiff* (the "<u>Requests</u>")<sup>2</sup> served by Highland Capital Management Fund Advisors, L.P. ("<u>HCMFA</u>" or "<u>Defendant</u>") in the above-captioned adversary proceeding (the "<u>Adversary Proceeding</u>"). The Debtor's responses and objections to the Requests (the "<u>Responses</u>") are made pursuant to Federal Rules of Civil Procedure ("<u>FRCP</u>") 26, 33, and 34 as made applicable in bankruptcy cases pursuant to Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure 7026, 7033, and 7034.

### **GENERAL OBJECTIONS**

Unless otherwise specified, the following general objections and caveats are applicable to each and every Response and are incorporated into each Response as though set forth in full:

- 1. The Responses contained herein are based upon information presently known and ascertained by the Debtor.
- 2. The Debtor objects to the Requests to the extent they seek information or documents that are protected from discovery by the attorney-client privilege, the attorney work product doctrine or any other privilege or immunity. The inadvertent disclosure or production of any document that is protected from discovery by any privilege or immunity shall not constitute a waiver of any such privilege or immunity. All references in these objections and responses to the Debtor's agreement to produce documents shall be construed to mean non-privileged documents.
- 3. The Debtor objects to the Requests to the extent they request information that is not reasonably or readily available to it, in its possession, custody or control, or is more

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Capitalized terms not defined herein shall have the meanings set forth in the Requests.

readily available to HCMFA from another source or for which the burden of obtaining such information is not substantially greater for HCMFA than it is for the Debtor.

- 4. All specific responses to the Requests are provided without waiver of, and with express reservation of (a) all objections as to competency, relevancy, materiality, and admissibility of the responses and the subject matter thereof as evidence for any purpose in any further proceedings in this matter; (b) all privileges, including the attorney-client privilege and work product doctrine; (c) the right to object to the use of such responses, or the subject matter thereof, on any ground in any further proceeding in this action; and (d) the right to object on any ground at any time to a demand or request for further responses to these or any other discovery requests or other discovery proceedings.
- 5. The Debtor objects to the Requests to the extent they seek to expand on or conflict with Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure and/or the Local Rules of the Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of Texas.
- 6. The Debtor's agreement to produce documents with respect to a specific Request shall not be construed as a representation that such documents actually exist or are within Plaintiff's possession, custody or control.
- 7. These General Objections and Responses shall be deemed to be incorporated by reference into the Specific Responses and Objections set forth below.

# SPECIFIC OBJECTIONS AND RESPONSES TO DOCUMENT REQUESTS

#### **REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 8:**

The Debtor's compliance manual.

# **RESPONSE TO REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 8:**

The Debtor objects to Request for Production No. 8 on the grounds that it is vague, overly broad, not proportional to the needs of the case, and not relevant to the parties' claims or defenses. *See* Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(b)(1).

## **REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 9:**

All Microsoft Word copies of the Notes, including metadata.

## **RESPONSE TO REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 9:**

The Debtor objects to Request for Production No. 9 to the extent the term "metadata" is vague. Subject to the General Objections and this specific objection, the Debtor will conduct a reasonable search for, and produce, documents responsive to this Request.

## **REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 10:**

All email communications related to preparation of the Notes.

#### **RESPONSE TO REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 10:**

Subject to the General Objections, the Debtor will conduct a reasonable search for, and produce, documents responsive to Request for Production No. 10, including using search terms and identifying custodians that the Debtor believes are most likely to yield responsive information.

#### **REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 11:**

All email communications with external auditors related to the Notes.

# **RESPONSE TO REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 11:**

Subject to the General Objections, the Debtor will conduct a reasonable search for, and produce, documents responsive to Request for Production No. 11, including using search terms and identifying custodians that the Debtor believes are most likely to yield responsive information.

#### **REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 12:**

All email communications related to the NAV Error.

#### **RESPONSE TO REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 12:**

Subject to the General Objections, the Debtor will conduct a reasonable search for, and produce, documents responsive to Request for Production No. 12, including using search terms and identifying custodians that the Debtor believes are most likely to yield responsive information.

# **REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 13:**

All email communications related to any insurance claim related to the NAV Error.

#### **RESPONSE TO REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 13:**

The Debtor objects to Request for Production No. 13 on the grounds that it is vague, overly broad, not proportional to the needs of the case, and not relevant to the parties' claims or defenses. *See* Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(b)(1). Subject to the General Objections and these specific objections, the Debtor will conduct a reasonable search for, and produce, documents responsive to Request for Production No. 13 to the extent they are relevant to the NAV Error and the Notes, including using search terms and identifying custodians that the Debtor believes are most likely to yield responsive information.

#### **REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 14:**

All email communications related to the payment obligations of HCMFA to Highland Global Allocation Fund for the NAV Error.

#### **RESPONSE TO REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 14:**

Case 21-03004-sgj Doc 83-1 Filed 11/30/21 Entered 11/30/21 16:45:53 Desc Case 3:21-cv-00881-X Docu**Apprendix - Part 2** ile **Page 0378**4 of **378**9e 230 of 261 Page D 28546

Subject to the General Objections, the Debtor will conduct a reasonable search for, and produce, documents responsive to Request for Production No. 14, including using search terms and identifying custodians that the Debtor believes are most likely to yield responsive information.

Dated: June 28, 2021

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COUNSEL FOR HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT FUND ADVISORS, L.P.

Facsimile: (214) 978-4375

# IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS DALLAS DIVISION

In re	§	
HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT,	§ §	Chapter 11
L.P.,	§ §	Case No. 19-34054-sgj11
Debtor.	§	
HIGH AND CADITAL MANAGEMENT	§	
HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P.,	§ 8	
L.F.,	§ 8	
Plaintiff,	§	
	§	Adv. No. 21-03004
V.	§	Auv. 110. 21 03004
HIGH AND CADITAL MANAGEMENT	§ e	
HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT	§ e	
FUND ADVISORS, L.P.	§ e	
Defendant.	§ §	

### **DEFENDANT'S SECOND AMENDED ANSWER**

COMES NOW Highland Capital Management Fund Advisors, L.P. (the "<u>Defendant</u>"), the defendant in the above-styled and numbered adversary proceeding (the "<u>Adversary Proceeding</u>") filed by Highland Capital Management, L.P. (the "<u>Plaintiff</u>"), and files this its *Defendant's Second Amended Answer* (the "<u>Answer</u>"), responding to the *Complaint for (I) Breach of Contract and (II) Turnover of Property of the Debtor's Estate* (the "<u>Complaint</u>"). Where an allegation in the Complaint is not expressly admitted in this Answer, it is denied.

#### PRELIMINARY STATEMENT

- 1. The first sentence of ¶ 1 sets forth the Plaintiff's objective in bringing the Complaint and does not require a response. To the extent it contains factual allegations, they are denied. The second sentence contains a legal conclusion that does not require a response. To the extent it contains factual allegations, they are denied.
- 2. Paragraph 2 contains a summary of the relief the Plaintiff seeks and does not require a response. To the extent it contains factual allegations, they are denied.

#### **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

- 3. The Defendant admits that this Adversary Proceeding relates to the Plaintiff's bankruptcy case but denies any implication that this fact confers Constitutional authority on the Bankruptcy Case to adjudicate this dispute. Any allegations in ¶ 3 not expressly admitted are denied.
- 4. The Defendant admits that the Court has statutory (but not Constitutional) jurisdiction to hear this Adversary Proceeding. Any allegations in ¶ 4 not expressly admitted are denied.
- 5. The Defendant denies that a breach of contract claim is core. The Defendant denies that a § 542(b) turnover proceeding is the appropriate mechanism to collect a contested debt. The Defendant admits that a § 542(b) turnover proceeding is statutorily core but denies that it is Constitutionally core under *Stern v. Marshall*. The Defendant does <u>not</u> consent to the Bankruptcy Court entering final orders or judgment in this Adversary Proceeding. Any allegations in ¶ 5 not expressly admitted are denied.
  - 6. The Defendant admits ¶ 6 of the Complaint.

#### THE PARTIES

7. The Defendant admits ¶ 7 of the Complaint.

8. The Defendant admits  $\P$  8 of the Complaint.

## CASE BACKGROUND

- 9. The Defendant admits  $\P$  9 of the Complaint.
- 10. The Defendant admits ¶ 10 of the Complaint.
- 11. The Defendant admits ¶ 11 of the Complaint.
- 12. The Defendant admits ¶ 12 of the Complaint.

#### STATEMENT OF FACTS

#### A. The HCMFA Notes

- 13. The Defendant admits that it has executed at least one promissory note under which the Debtor is the payee. Any allegations in ¶ 13 not expressly admitted are denied.
  - 14. The Defendant denies ¶ 14 of the Complaint.
  - 15. The Defendant denies ¶ 15 of the Complaint.
- 16. The Defendant denies ¶ 16 of the Complaint. The document speaks for itself and the quote set forth in ¶ 16 is not verbatim.
- 17. The Defendant denies ¶ 17 of the Complaint. The document speaks for itself and the quote set forth in ¶ 17 is not verbatim.
  - 18. The Defendant admits ¶ 18 of the Complaint.

#### B. HCMFA's Default under Each Note

- 19. The Defendant admits that Exhibit 3 to the Complaint (the "<u>Demand Letter</u>") is a true and correct copy of what it purports to be and that the document speaks for itself. To the extent ¶ 19 of the Complaint asserts a legal conclusion, no response is required, and it is denied. To the extent not expressly admitted, ¶ 19 of the Complaint is denied.
- 20. To the extent ¶ 20 of the Complaint asserts a legal conclusion, no response is necessary, and it is denied. The Defendant otherwise admits ¶ 20 of the Complaint.

- 21. The Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of the allegations in ¶ 21 of the Complaint and therefore denies the same.
- 22. The Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of the allegations in ¶ 22 of the Complaint and therefore denies the same.
- 23. The Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of the allegations in ¶ 23 of the Complaint and therefore denies the same.
  - 24. The Defendant denies ¶ 24 of the Complaint.

# FIRST CLAIM FOR RELIEF (For Breach of Contract)

- 25. Paragraph 25 of the Complaint is a sentence of incorporation that does not require a response. All prior denials are incorporated herein by reference.
- 26. Paragraph 26 of the Complaint states a legal conclusion that does not require a response. To the extent it alleges facts, the Defendant denies the allegations in ¶ 26 of the Complaint.
- 27. Paragraph 27 of the Complaint states a legal conclusion that does not require a response. To the extent it alleges facts, the Defendant denies the allegations in ¶ 27 of the Complaint.
- 28. Paragraph 28 of the Complaint states a legal conclusion that does not require a response. To the extent it alleges facts, the Defendant denies the allegations in ¶ 28 of the Complaint.
  - 29. The Defendant denies ¶ 29 of the Complaint.

# SECOND CLAIM FOR RELIEF (Turnover by HCMFA Pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 542(b))

30. Paragraph 30 of the Complaint is a sentence of incorporation that does not require a response. All prior denials are incorporated herein by reference.

- 31. Paragraph 31 of the Complaint states a legal conclusion that does not require a response. To the extent it alleges facts, the Defendant denies the allegations in  $\P$  31 of the Complaint.
- 32. Paragraph 32 of the Complaint states a legal conclusion that does not require a response. To the extent it alleges facts, the Defendant denies the allegations in ¶ 32 of the Complaint.
  - 33. The Defendant denies ¶ 33 of the Complaint.
- 34. Paragraph 34 of the Complaint states a legal conclusion that does not require a response. The Defendant admits that the Plaintiff transmitted the Demand Letter. To the extent ¶ 34 alleges other facts, the Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of the allegations in ¶ 34 of the Complaint and therefore denies the same.
- 35. The Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of the allegations in ¶ 35 of the Complaint and therefore denies the same.
- 36. Paragraph 36 of the Complaint states a legal conclusion that does not require a response. To the extent it alleges facts, the Defendant denies the allegations in ¶ 36 of the Complaint.
- 37. The Defendant denies that the Plaintiff is entitled to the relief requested in the prayer, including parts (i), (ii), and (iii).

#### **AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES**

- 38. At all material times to the Complaint, the Defendant, a registered advisor, advised various third-party funds as to their investments. One such fund was Highland Global Allocation Fund ("HGAF").
- 39. At all material times to the Complaint, the Defendant contracted with the Plaintiff whereby the Plaintiff, through its employees, would provide certain services to the Defendant,

including with respect to the Defendant's advice to the third-party funds. These services so provided included accounting, legal, regulatory, valuation, and compliance services.

- 40. In March, 2018, HGAF sold equity interests it held in TerreStar. As part of this, it was necessary to calculate the "net asset value" ("NAV") of these securities and of HGAF assets. The Defendant was responsible for advising on the NAV. In turn, pursuant to the Shared Services Agreement in effect at that time between the Plaintiff and the Defendant, the Plaintiff was responsible to the Defendant to calculate the NAV, and the Plaintiff had several employees charged with these and similar calculations as part of the Plaintiff's routine business services and as part of what the Plaintiff regularly provided to the Defendant and affiliated companies.
- 41. The Plaintiff made a mistake in calculating the NAV (the "NAV Error"). The NAV Error was discovered in early 2019 as HGAF was being converted from an open-ended fund to a closed-ended fund. The Securities and Exchange Commission opened an investigation, and various employees and representatives of the Plaintiff, the Defendant, and HGAF worked with the SEC to correct the error and to compensate HGAF and the various investors in HGAF harmed by the NAV Error. Ultimately, and working with the SEC, the Plaintiff determined that the losses from the NAV Error to HGAF and its shareholders amounted to \$7.5 million: (i) \$6.1 million for the NAV Error itself, as well as rebating related advisor fees and processing costs; and (ii) \$1.4 million of losses to the shareholders of HGAF.
- 42. The Defendant accepted responsibility for the NAV Error and paid out \$5,186,496 on February 15, 2019 and \$2,398,842 on May 21, 2019. In turn, the Plaintiff accepted responsibility to the Defendant for having caused the NAV Error, and the Plaintiff ultimately, whether through insurance or its own funds, compensated the Defendant for the above payments by paying, or causing to be paid, approximately \$7.5 million to the Defendant directly or indirectly to HGAF and its investors.

- 43. At this time, Frank Waterhouse ("<u>Waterhouse</u>") was the Chief Financial Officer to both the Plaintiff and the Defendant. The two promissory notes the subject of the Complaint (the "<u>Notes</u>") purportedly bear Waterhouse's signature. But he did not sign the Notes in any representative capacity for the Defendant. The Defendant did not authorize Waterhouse to sign the Notes or to bind the Defendant in any way to the Notes.
- 44. Indeed, Waterhouse testified that he does not specifically recall signing the Notes. Given that Waterhouse's signature on the Notes is identical on both, it appears the Notes were signed electronically, whereas Waterhouse testified the ordinary practice at the time was to use wet-ink signatures. The metadata associated with the Notes also indicates someone else actually affixed Waterhouse's signature, and there is no evidence such person had authority to do so.
- 45. Even if Waterhouse signed the Notes or authorized someone to affix his signature, he made a mistake in preparing and signing the Notes for the Defendant. Upon information and belief, Waterhouse was not aware that payments from the Plaintiff to the Defendant were to compensate the Defendant for the NAV Error and resulting damages, instead assuming that the Notes were like prior notes between the Plaintiff and the Defendant. Waterhouse failed to properly inquire into the underlying transaction and, either for unknown accounting or other purposes, Waterhouse prepared and signed the Notes on his own, or caused them to be prepared and signed, without proper knowledge of the underlying facts and without actual authority from either the Plaintiff or the Defendant.
- 46. In sum, neither the Plaintiff nor the Defendant intended that any funds paid by the Plaintiff to the Defendant be treated as debt but that they instead be treated as compensation by the Plaintiff to the Defendant for the NAV Error that the Plaintiff caused. The Notes are an unauthorized mistake and a nullity, and are void for a lack of consideration.

- 47. To the extent Waterhouse had apparent authority to bind the Defendant to the Notes, such apparently authority does not apply to the Notes because Waterhouse's lack of actual authority is imputed to the Plaintiff, as Waterhouse was the CFO for the Plaintiff.
- 48. Accordingly, the Notes are void or unenforceable for never having been executed, for lack of consideration, for mutual mistake, and/or for the lack of authority from the Defendant to Waterhouse to execute the same for the Defendant.
- 49. For the avoidance of doubt, based on the foregoing, the Defendant expressly denies that the Notes were ever signed or executed.

#### **JURY DEMAND**

- 50. The Defendant demands a trial by jury of all issues so triable pursuant to Rule 38 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and Rule 9015 of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure.
- 51. The Defendant does <u>not</u> consent to the Bankruptcy Court conducting a jury trial and therefore demands a jury trial in the District Court.

#### **PRAYER**

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Defendant respectfully request that, following a trial on the merits, the Court enter a judgment that the Plaintiff take noting on the Complaint and provide the Defendant such other relief to which it is entitled.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_, 2021.

Case 21-03004-sgj Doc 85 Filed 11/30/21 Entered 11/30/21 23:44:55 Desc Main Case 3:21-cv-00881-X Documen Docum

#### MUNSCH HARDT KOPF & HARR, P.C.

By: /s/

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COUNSEL FOR HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT FUND ADVISORS, L.P.

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

The undersigned hereby certifies that, on this the day of, 2 true and correct copies of this document were electronically served by the Court's ECF systematics entitled to notice thereof, including on counsel for the plaintiff.	2021, em on
By: /s/	
Davor Rukavina, Esq.	

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Julian P. Vasek, Esq.
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COUNSEL FOR HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT FUND ADVISORS, L.P.

# IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS DALLAS DIVISION

In re	<b>§</b>	
HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT,	§ §	Chapter 11
L.P.,	§ §	Case No. 19-34054-sgj11
Debtor.	§	
HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P.,	& & &	
Plaintiff,	8 8 8	Adv. No. 21-03004
V.	§	Auv. 140. 21-03004
HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT FUND ADVISORS, L.P.	% % %	
Defendant.	§	

# SUPPLEMENTAL DOCUMENTS

COMES NOW Highland Capital Management Fund Advisors, L.P. and files the following documents in support of its *Defendant's Second Motion for Leave to Amend Answer and Brief in Support Thereof*:

- A. [Proposed] Defendant's Second Amended Answer; and
- B. Redline of [Proposed] Defendant's Second Amended Answer.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED this 2nd day of December, 2021.

## MUNSCH HARDT KOPF & HARR, P.C.

By: /s/ Julian P. Vasek

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Texas Bar No. 24030781
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drukavina@munsch.com jvasek@munsch.com

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#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

The undersigned hereby certifies that, on this the 2nd day of December, 2021, true and correct copies of this document (and attachments) were electronically served by the Court's ECF system on parties entitled to notice thereof, including on counsel for the plaintiff.

By: /s/ Julian P. Vasek

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# IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS DALLAS DIVISION

In re	§	
HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT,	§ §	Chapter 11
L.P.,	§ §	Case No. 19-34054-sgj11
Debtor.	§	
HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P.,	% %	
Plaintiff,	& & &	
v.	§ §	Adv. No. 21-03004
HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT	§	
FUND ADVISORS, L.P.	§ 8	
Defendant.	§	

### **DEFENDANT'S SECOND AMENDED ANSWER**

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- 2. Paragraph 2 contains a summary of the relief the Plaintiff seeks and does not require a response. To the extent it contains factual allegations, they are denied.

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#### THE PARTIES

7. The Defendant admits ¶ 7 of the Complaint.

8. The Defendant admits  $\P$  8 of the Complaint.

#### **CASE BACKGROUND**

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#### STATEMENT OF FACTS

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- 19. The Defendant admits that Exhibit 3 to the Complaint (the "<u>Demand Letter</u>") is a true and correct copy of what it purports to be and that the document speaks for itself. To the extent ¶ 19 of the Complaint asserts a legal conclusion, no response is required, and it is denied. To the extent not expressly admitted, ¶ 19 of the Complaint is denied.
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- 26. Paragraph 26 of the Complaint states a legal conclusion that does not require a response. To the extent it alleges facts, the Defendant denies the allegations in ¶ 26 of the Complaint.
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  - 29. The Defendant denies ¶ 29 of the Complaint.

# SECOND CLAIM FOR RELIEF (Turnover by HCMFA Pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 542(b))

30. Paragraph 30 of the Complaint is a sentence of incorporation that does not require a response. All prior denials are incorporated herein by reference.

- 31. Paragraph 31 of the Complaint states a legal conclusion that does not require a response. To the extent it alleges facts, the Defendant denies the allegations in ¶ 31 of the Complaint.
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- 37. The Defendant denies that the Plaintiff is entitled to the relief requested in the prayer, including parts (i), (ii), and (iii).

## **AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES**

- 38. At all material times to the Complaint, the Defendant, a registered advisor, advised various third-party funds as to their investments. One such fund was Highland Global Allocation Fund ("HGAF").
- 39. At all material times to the Complaint, the Defendant contracted with the Plaintiff whereby the Plaintiff, through its employees, would provide certain services to the Defendant,

including with respect to the Defendant's advice to the third-party funds. These services so provided included accounting, legal, regulatory, valuation, and compliance services.

- 40. In March, 2018, HGAF sold equity interests it held in TerreStar. As part of this, it was necessary to calculate the "net asset value" ("NAV") of these securities and of HGAF assets. The Defendant was responsible for advising on the NAV. In turn, pursuant to the Shared Services Agreement in effect at that time between the Plaintiff and the Defendant, the Plaintiff was responsible to the Defendant to calculate the NAV, and the Plaintiff had several employees charged with these and similar calculations as part of the Plaintiff's routine business services and as part of what the Plaintiff regularly provided to the Defendant and affiliated companies.
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- 42. The Defendant accepted responsibility for the NAV Error and paid out \$5,186,496 on February 15, 2019 and \$2,398,842 on May 21, 2019. In turn, the Plaintiff accepted responsibility to the Defendant for having caused the NAV Error, and the Plaintiff ultimately, whether through insurance or its own funds, compensated the Defendant for the above payments by paying, or causing to be paid, approximately \$7.5 million to the Defendant directly or indirectly to HGAF and its investors.

- 43. At this time, Frank Waterhouse ("<u>Waterhouse</u>") was the Chief Financial Officer to both the Plaintiff and the Defendant. The two promissory notes the subject of the Complaint (the "<u>Notes</u>") purportedly bear Waterhouse's signature. But he did not sign the Notes in any representative capacity for the Defendant. The Defendant did not authorize Waterhouse to sign the Notes or to bind the Defendant in any way to the Notes.
- 44. Indeed, Waterhouse testified that he does not specifically recall signing the Notes. Given that Waterhouse's signature on the Notes is identical on both, it appears the Notes were signed electronically, whereas Waterhouse testified the ordinary practice at the time was to use wet-ink signatures. The metadata associated with the Notes also indicates someone else actually affixed Waterhouse's signature, and there is no evidence such person had authority to do so.
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- 48. Accordingly, the Notes are void or unenforceable for never having been executed, for lack of consideration, for mutual mistake, and/or for the lack of authority from the Defendant to Waterhouse to execute the same for the Defendant.
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#### **JURY DEMAND**

- 50. The Defendant demands a trial by jury of all issues so triable pursuant to Rule 38 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and Rule 9015 of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure.
- 51. The Defendant does <u>not</u> consent to the Bankruptcy Court conducting a jury trial and therefore demands a jury trial in the District Court.

#### **PRAYER**

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Defendant respectfully request that, following a trial on the merits, the Court enter a judgment that the Plaintiff take noting on the Complaint and provide the Defendant such other relief to which it is entitled.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_, 2021.

Case 21-03004-sgj Doc 86-1 Filed 12/02/21 Entered 12/02/21 15:39:13 Desc Case 3:21-cv-00881-XProposed Sectorial 34m Fribed 04/1350/24 Page 251 9 f 261 Page D 28567

#### MUNSCH HARDT KOPF & HARR, P.C.

By: /s/

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#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

The undersigned hereby certifies that, on this the day of, 2 true and correct copies of this document were electronically served by the Court's ECF systematics entitled to notice thereof, including on counsel for the plaintiff.	2021, em on
By: /s/	
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# IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS DALLAS DIVISION

In re	§
HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P.,	\$ Chapter 11 \$ Case No. 19-34054-sgj11
Debtor.	§
HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P.,	§ § § §
Plaintiff, v.	§ § Adv. No. 21-03004
HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT FUND ADVISORS, L.P.	\$ \$ \$ \$
Defendant.	§

#### **DEFENDANT'S SECOND AMENDED ANSWER**

COMES NOW Highland Capital Management Fund Advisors, L.P. (the "<u>Defendant</u>"), the defendant in the above-styled and numbered adversary proceeding (the "<u>Adversary Proceeding</u>") filed by Highland Capital Management, L.P. (the "<u>Plaintiff</u>"), and files this its <u>Defendant's Second</u> Amended Answer (the "<u>Answer</u>"), responding to the Complaint for (I) Breach of Contract and (II) Turnover of Property of the Debtor's Estate (the "<u>Complaint</u>"). Where an allegation in the Complaint is not expressly admitted in this Answer, it is denied.

## **PRELIMINARY STATEMENT**

- 1. The first sentence of ¶ 1 sets forth the Plaintiff's objective in bringing the Complaint and does not require a response. To the extent it contains factual allegations, they are denied. The second sentence contains a legal conclusion that does not require a response. To the extent it contains factual allegations, they are denied.
- 2. Paragraph 2 contains a summary of the relief the Plaintiff seeks and does not require a response. To the extent it contains factual allegations, they are denied.

#### **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

- 3. The Defendant admits that this Adversary Proceeding relates to the Plaintiff's bankruptcy case but denies any implication that this fact confers Constitutional authority on the Bankruptcy Case to adjudicate this dispute. Any allegations in ¶ 3 not expressly admitted are denied.
- 4. The Defendant admits that the Court has statutory (but not Constitutional) jurisdiction to hear this Adversary Proceeding. Any allegations in ¶ 4 not expressly admitted are denied.
- 5. The Defendant denies that a breach of contract claim is core. The Defendant denies that a § 542(b) turnover proceeding is the appropriate mechanism to collect a contested debt. The Defendant admits that a § 542(b) turnover proceeding is statutorily core but denies that it is Constitutionally core under *Stern v. Marshall*. The Defendant does <u>not</u> consent to the Bankruptcy Court entering final orders or judgment in this Adversary Proceeding. Any allegations in ¶ 5 not expressly admitted are denied.
  - 6. The Defendant admits  $\P$  6 of the Complaint.

#### THE PARTIES

7. The Defendant admits ¶ 7 of the Complaint.

8. The Defendant admits  $\P$  8 of the Complaint.

#### **CASE BACKGROUND**

- 9. The Defendant admits  $\P$  9 of the Complaint.
- 10. The Defendant admits ¶ 10 of the Complaint.
- 11. The Defendant admits ¶ 11 of the Complaint.
- 12. The Defendant admits ¶ 12 of the Complaint.

#### **STATEMENT OF FACTS**

#### A. The HCMFA Notes

- 13. The Defendant admits that it has executed at least one promissory note under which the Debtor is the payee. Any allegations in ¶ 13 not expressly admitted are denied.
  - 14. The Defendant denies ¶ 14 of the Complaint.
  - 15. The Defendant denies ¶ 15 of the Complaint.
- 16. The Defendant denies ¶ 16 of the Complaint. The document speaks for itself and the quote set forth in ¶ 16 is not verbatim.
- 17. The Defendant denies ¶ 17 of the Complaint. The document speaks for itself and the quote set forth in ¶ 17 is not verbatim.
  - 18. The Defendant admits ¶ 18 of the Complaint.

#### B. HCMFA's Default under Each Note

- 19. The Defendant admits that Exhibit 3 to the Complaint (the "<u>Demand Letter</u>") is a true and correct copy of what it purports to be and that the document speaks for itself. To the extent ¶ 19 of the Complaint asserts a legal conclusion, no response is required, and it is denied. To the extent not expressly admitted, ¶ 19 of the Complaint is denied.
- 20. To the extent ¶ 20 of the Complaint asserts a legal conclusion, no response is necessary, and it is denied. The Defendant otherwise admits ¶ 20 of the Complaint.

- 21. The Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of the allegations in ¶ 21 of the Complaint and therefore denies the same.
- 22. The Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of the allegations in ¶ 22 of the Complaint and therefore denies the same.
- 23. The Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of the allegations in ¶ 23 of the Complaint and therefore denies the same.
  - 24. The Defendant denies ¶ 24 of the Complaint.

# FIRST CLAIM FOR RELIEF (For Breach of Contract)

- 25. Paragraph 25 of the Complaint is a sentence of incorporation that does not require a response. All prior denials are incorporated herein by reference.
- 26. Paragraph 26 of the Complaint states a legal conclusion that does not require a response. To the extent it alleges facts, the Defendant denies the allegations in ¶ 26 of the Complaint.
- 27. Paragraph 27 of the Complaint states a legal conclusion that does not require a response. To the extent it alleges facts, the Defendant denies the allegations in ¶ 27 of the Complaint.
- 28. Paragraph 28 of the Complaint states a legal conclusion that does not require a response. To the extent it alleges facts, the Defendant denies the allegations in ¶ 28 of the Complaint.
  - 29. The Defendant denies ¶ 29 of the Complaint.

# SECOND CLAIM FOR RELIEF (Turnover by HCMFA Pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 542(b))

30. Paragraph 30 of the Complaint is a sentence of incorporation that does not require a response. All prior denials are incorporated herein by reference.

- 31. Paragraph 31 of the Complaint states a legal conclusion that does not require a response. To the extent it alleges facts, the Defendant denies the allegations in ¶ 31 of the Complaint.
- 32. Paragraph 32 of the Complaint states a legal conclusion that does not require a response. To the extent it alleges facts, the Defendant denies the allegations in ¶ 32 of the Complaint.
  - 33. The Defendant denies ¶ 33 of the Complaint.
- 34. Paragraph 34 of the Complaint states a legal conclusion that does not require a response. The Defendant admits that the Plaintiff transmitted the Demand Letter. To the extent ¶ 34 alleges other facts, the Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of the allegations in ¶ 34 of the Complaint and therefore denies the same.
- 35. The Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of the allegations in ¶ 35 of the Complaint and therefore denies the same.
- 36. Paragraph 36 of the Complaint states a legal conclusion that does not require a response. To the extent it alleges facts, the Defendant denies the allegations in ¶ 36 of the Complaint.
- 37. The Defendant denies that the Plaintiff is entitled to the relief requested in the prayer, including parts (i), (ii), and (iii).

#### **AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES**

- 38. At all material times to the Complaint, the Defendant, a registered advisor, advised various third-party funds as to their investments. One such fund was Highland Global Allocation Fund ("HGAF").
- 39. At all material times to the Complaint, the Defendant contracted with the Plaintiff whereby the Plaintiff, through its employees, would provide certain services to the Defendant,

including with respect to the Defendant's advice to the third-party funds. These services so provided included accounting, legal, regulatory, valuation, and compliance services.

- 40. In March, 2018, HGAF sold equity interests it held in TerreStar. As part of this, it was necessary to calculate the "net asset value" ("NAV") of these securities and of HGAF assets. The Defendant was responsible for advising on the NAV. In turn, pursuant to the Shared Services Agreement in effect at that time between the Plaintiff and the Defendant, the Plaintiff was responsible to the Defendant to calculate the NAV, and the Plaintiff had several employees charged with these and similar calculations as part of the Plaintiff's routine business services and as part of what the Plaintiff regularly provided to the Defendant and affiliated companies.
- 41. The Plaintff Plaintiff made a mistake in calculating the NAV (the "NAV Error"). The NAV Error was discovered in early 2019 as HGAF was being converted from an open-ended fund to a closed-ended fund. The Securities and Exchange Commission opened an investigation, and various employees and representatives of the Plaintiff, the Defendant, and HGAF worked with the SEC to correct the error and to compensate HGAF and the various investors in HGAF harmed by the NAV Error. Ultimately, and working with the SEC, the Plantiff Dlaintiff determined that the losses from the NAV Error to HGAF and its shareholders amounted to \$7.5 million: (i) \$6.1 million for the NAV Error itself, as well as rebating related advisor fees and processing costs; and (ii) \$1.4 million of losses to the shareholders of HGAF.
- 42. The Defendant accepted responsibility for the NAV Error and paid out \$5,186,496 on February 15, 2019 and \$2,398,842 on May 21, 2019. In turn, the Plaintiff accepted responsibility to the Defendant for having caused the NAV Error, and the Plaintiff ultimately, whether through insurance or its own funds, compensated the Defendant for the above payments by paying, or causing to be paid, approximately \$7.5 million to the Defendant directly or indirectly to HGAF and its investors.

- 43. At this time, Frank Waterhouse ("<u>Waterhouse</u>") was the Chief Financial Officer to both the Plaintiff and the Defendant. Waterhouse signed the The two promissory notes the subject of the Complaint (the "<u>Notes</u>") <u>purportedly bear Waterhouse's signature</u>. HeBut he did not sign the Notes in any representative capacity for the Defendant. The Defendant did not authorize Waterhouse to sign the Notes or to bind the Defendant in any way to the Notes.
- 44. Indeed, Waterhouse testified that he does not specifically recall signing the Notes. Given that Waterhouse's signature on the Notes is identical on both, it appears the Notes were signed electronically, whereas Waterhouse testified the ordinary practice at the time was to use wet-ink signatures. The metadata associated with the Notes also indicates someone else actually affixed Waterhouse's signature, and there is no evidence such person had authority to do so.
- 45. 44. Even if Waterhouse signed the Notes or authorized someone to affix his signature, he made a mistake in preparing and signing the Notes for the Defendant. Upon information and belief, Waterhouse was not aware that payments from the Plaintiff to the Defendant were to compensate the Defendant for the NAV Error and resulting damages, instead assuming that the Notes were like prior notes between the Plaintiff and the Defendant. Waterhouse failed to properly inquire into the underlying transaction and, either for unknown accounting or other purposes, Waterhouse prepared and signed the Notes on his own, or caused them to be prepared and signed, without proper knowledge of the underlying facts and without actual authority from either the Plaintiff or the Defendant.
- 46. 45. In sum, neither the Plaintiff nor the Defendant intended that any funds paid by the Plaintiff to the Defendant be treated as debt but that they instead be treated as compensation by the Plaintiff to the Defendant for the NAV Error that the Plaintiff caused. The Notes are an unauthorized mistake and a nullity, and are void for a lack of consideration.

- 47. 46. To the extent Waterhouse had apparent authority to bind the Defendant to the Notes, such apparently authority does not apply to the Notes because Waterhouse's lack of actual authority is imputed to the Plaintiff, as Waterhouse was the CFO for the Plaintiff.
- 48. 47.—Accordingly, the Notes are void or unenforceable for never having been executed, for lack of consideration, for mutual mistake, and/or for the lack of authority from the Defendant to Waterhouse to execute the same for the Defendant.
- 49. For the avoidance of doubt, based on the foregoing, the Defendant expressly denies that the Notes were ever signed or executed.

#### **JURY DEMAND**

- 48. The Defendant demands a trial by jury of all issues so triable pursuant to Rule
   38 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and Rule 9015 of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy
   Procedure.
- <u>51.</u> 49. The Defendant does <u>not</u> consent to the Bankruptcy Court conducting a jury trial and therefore demands a jury trial in the District Court.

#### **PRAYER**

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Defendant respectfully request that, following a trial on the merits, the Court enter a judgment that the Plaintiff take noting on the Complaint and provide the Defendant such other relief to which it is entitled.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED this 6th day of July \_\_\_\_\_, 2021.

#### MUNSCH HARDT KOPF & HARR, P.C.

By: /s/ Davor Rukavina

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By: /s/ <del>Davor Rukavina</del>
Davor Rukavina, Esq.

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Style change	
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Moved deletion	
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Moved cell	
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Moved to	0
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